

THE North-China Herald AND SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XVI., No. 468.

SHANGHAI, APRIL 29, 1876.

PRICE, Tls. 12 ½ AN.

NOTICE.

MR. EDWARD PYE HAGUE is admitted a Partner in our business from 1st January, 1876.

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tf 43 Shanghai, 19th April, 1876.

NOTICE.

MR. M. O. FITZGERALD'S interest and responsibility in our Firm ceased on the 31st March, 1876.

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THE MARCH NUMBER OF THE

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

The "Calcutta Magazine" should find many readers.—*Times of India*.

The Magazine should be in the hands of all.—*Lucknow Times*.

We should like to see the "Calcutta Magazine" on the tables of the Public Library and Literary Institute. To our thinking, it is quite on a par with any average home monthly of the day.—*Bangalore Examiner*.

The fair sex and lovers of light reading will appreciate Mr. Aratoon's exertions.—*Calcutta and Howrah Herald*.

We congratulate Mr. Owen Aratoon, the Editor, upon his being successful in presenting India with a first-class Magazine. Every family ought to subscribe to it. At all events, no Public Library in India should be without it.—*The Cochin Argus*.

The "Calcutta Magazine" is a valuable acquisition to periodical literature in India. On its general merits it is certain to win for its freight of amusement and instruction a welcome both in and out of India.—*The Athenaeum and Daily News*.

The manner in which this publication is conducted, and the matter it contains, are highly creditable to Mr. Owen Aratoon and his literary collaborators. It ought to be supported, not merely in Bengal, but also in other parts of India.—*Madras Standard*.

If Mr. Aratoon, the Editor, is able every month to come up to time, with as entertaining a miscellany, the success of his periodical is ensured. We think the low rate of subscription, Rs. 12 per annum, should make it a popular magazine all over the East.—*Rangoon Mail*.

We pay no empty compliment, when we assure Mr. Aratoon that we are looking forward with interest to the reception of his interesting periodical.—*Bengal Times*.

This seems to be a very readable periodical.—*North-China Herald*.

The Magazine ranks among the foremost of literary works in India, and we urgently recommend it to all lovers of good reading.—*Eastern Chronicle*.

Contributions intended for insertion, as well as books for review, should be addressed to the Editor.

* * We would draw the attention of advertisers to this journal as an excellent medium for advertising. Rates for advertisements may be learnt on application to the MANAGER, 5, Council House Street, Calcutta.

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It is agreeable to the palate, and innocent in its action, while retaining all its extraordinary properties; and as a specific, surpassing all the known therapeutic agents of the present day for the speedy and permanent cure of—

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Hypochondria	Eruptions of the skin
Female Complaints	Impaired Sight and Memory
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Indigestion	Impoverished Blood
Flatulence	Nervous Debility in all its stages
Idleness for Study or Business	Premature Decline
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Lassitude	

and all morbid conditions of the system arising from whatever cause. The action of the Phosphodyne is twofold—on the one hand increasing the principle which constitutes nervous energy, and on the other the most powerful blood and flesh generating agent known; therefore, a marvellous medicine for renovating impaired and broken-down constitutions. It quickly improves the functions of assimilation to such a degree, that where for years an emaciated, anxious, cadaverous, and semi-vital condition has existed, the flesh will rapidly increase in quantity and firmness, and the whole system return to a state of robust health. The Phosphodyne acts electrically upon the organization; for instance, it assists nature to generate that human electricity which renews and rebuilds the osseous, muscular, nervous, membranous, and organic systems. It operates on the system without exciting care or thought upon the individual as to the process. It moves the lungs, liver, heart, kidneys, stomach, and intestines, with a harmony, vigour, yet mildness unparalleled in medicine.

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and muscular system which renders the mind cheerful, brilliant, and energetic, entirely overcoming that dull, inactive, and sluggish disposition which many persons experience in all their actions.

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THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XVI., No. 468.

SHANGHAI, APRIL 29, 1876.

PRICE, Tls. 12 ½ AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England, ...	Mar. 17	Hankow, ...	Apr. 25
San Francisco, ...	" 16	Yokohama, ...	" 13
Hongkong, ...	Apr. 24	Nagasaki, ...	" 15
Tientsin, ...	" 25	Foochow, ...	" 20

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.
Hongkong, ...

Shanghai, ...

BIRTHS.

At Hangchow, on Easter Day, April 16th, the wife of the Rev. A. E. MOULE, Missionary of the C. M. S., of a son.
At Yokohama, on 11th April, the wife of JOHN WALTER, of a daughter.

DEATH.

On the 12th March, at Grove Hill, Tunbridge Wells, Althia Margaret Herschel, the youngest child of Sir THOMAS F. WADE, K.C.B., H.B.M.'s Minister at Peking, aged 13 months.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Peking*, for Hankow—Mr. Skatschkoff.

Per str. *Chihli*, for Tientsin—Lieutenant Sidaroff.

Per str. *Nanking*, for Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Rodinoff, Messrs. Kostrouliouff and Dosimoxinoff. For Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Macphail and Mr. Brelow.

Per str. *Shantung*, for Tientsin—Mrs. Shaw.

Per str. *Hankow*, for Hankow—Messrs. H. Rubery, Lawless, and R. Bronsted.

Per M. B. str. *Nagoya Maru*, for Nagasaki—Messrs. G. H. Noetzel, C. Bohnen, W. H. Anderson, and J. Ullmann. For Hio-go—Mr. and Mrs. P. Maclean, two children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. H. N. C. van Cattenburg, Messrs. A. Burman, G. B. Dodwell, and W. Harper. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Bisset, child and servant, Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Webb, child and servant, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Hall; His Excellency the Japanese Minister, and the Secretary; Rev. Dean Butcher, Messrs. A. Thorburn, J. S. Halsey, L. Poesnecker, J. J. Howard, R. T. Crighton, J. Cooper, J. L. Mateer, Maudin, Dr. B. Forsblad, and Master Halsey. For San Francisco—Capt. N. C. Law, wife, child and servant, and Mr. Clark Blethen. For Liverpool—Rev. J. Stronach and Mr. J. A. Maitland.

ARRIVED.

Per M. B. str. *Nagoya Maru*, from Yokohama and Ports—Mrs. S. D. Hepburn, Miss Youngman, Miss Adell, Rev. Gulick, Messrs. K. E. Weckerlin, Van Gattenbreck, Mandin, Gardner, Mitchell, Hezuteini, H. Peacock, L. Anderson, J. S. Smith, Shimoda, Chinam, Din Chao Po, A. Bruse, M. Erdman, Tomida, Wakata, Yeyawa, T. Sidnooff, Matsuda, and Dr. H. M. Perkins; 18 Chinese and 24 Japanese in steerage.

Per str. *Russia*, from Suez—Messrs. Alexander Kostromitinoff, Mitchel Podgio, Alexis Mouchnikoff, Alexis Antonoff, and Frederick Dosmanoff. From Hongkong—French Lady and Gentleman.

Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—Mr. Neilson, one Parsee gentleman, and two German gentlemen; 84 Chinese in steerage. Transferred from the stranded str. *Quangtung*, at Ocksen Island; Mr. Moorhead, and 37 Chinese.

Per M. M. str. *Meikong*, from Marseilles—Mrs. Casteren, Colonel Cooke, Messrs. Bourgaert, Malteau, Cole, Findlay, Deacon, Haskell, Ballance, Brunsted, Lucas, Van Glehn Krawpolsky and Legras. From Naples—Mr. and Mrs. Rodionoff. From Suez—Mr. Shenk. From Hongkong—Messrs. Poesnecker, A. Morel and J. N. G. F. Postlethain.

Per str. *Chihli*, from Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Olsen, Mr. and Mrs. Brennan and family.

Per str. *Peking*, from Hankow—Mr. T. Watson. From Kiukiang—Mr. and Mrs. Hall. From Chinkiang—Messrs. F. A. Morgan and D. M. David.

Per str. *Plymouth Rock*, from Hankow—Mr. Harrison.

Per str. *Viking*, from Hongkong—Mr. Ullman.

Per str. *Columbian*, from Yokohama—Messrs. J. C. Bois, H. H. Joseph, Benwell, Black, Daniel, and Hickling; 7 Chinese in steerage. From Hio-go—Dr. Little, Mrs.

Little, child and amah, Messrs. W. C. Ward, and G. F. Addis; 9 Chinese and 1 Japanese in steerage. From Nagasaki—3 Chinese and 1 Japanese in steerage.

Per str. *Sin Nanzing*, from Tientsin—Mr. Wilson; 30 Chinese in steerage.

Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—Mr. Da Silva and servant; 90 Chinese in steerage.

Per str. *Nanking*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Pike, and Mr. J. J. Howard. From Chinkiang—Mrs. Boleu.

Per str. *Shantung*, from Tientsin—Baron Athens. From Chefoo—Mr. Murtou.

Per P. & O. str. *Hindustan*, from Venice—Mr. E. Gammon. From Brindisi—Messrs. Bourke, C. H. Hole, W. Lent, and Ringer.

From Bombay—Mr. Nakai. From Hongkong—Messrs. J. W. Jordan, J. C. Walsh, and Capt. Starkey; 100 Chinese in steerage.

Per str. *Hankow*, from Hankow—Dr. W. H. Elmes.

Per str. *Paoting*, from Tientsin—The Japanese Minister, and Secretary, Rev. Père du Quetto, and Capt. Trotter. From Chefoo—Dr. Myers.

LEAVING.

Per P. and O. str. *Gwalior*, for Southampton—Mrs. Lord. For Hongkong—Dr. W. H. Elmes and Mr. D. B. Tata.

Advertisement.

NOTICE.

THE Partnership hitherto existing between JOHN PETRIE BISSET and WILLIAM MITCHELL, under the style of J. P. BISSET & Co., having been dissolved by lapse of time, the business is, from this date, transferred to Mr. JAMES BUCHANAN, who is authorized to sign the Firm in Liquidation.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

WITH reference to the above, the business of the late Firm of J. P. BISSET & Co. will be conducted in future by the undersigned, under the same style.

J. BUCHANAN.

5my 44 Shanghai, 22nd April, 1876.

The publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 4.15 p.m.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, APR. 29, 1876.

ALL the scanty information which arrives from the North-West of China, goes to prove that the Chinese have met with a severe, if not a decisive defeat, and that the army of Yakoob Beg is completely master of the situation. It was but a few weeks ago, that we pointed out the utter impossibility of the Chinese, unaided, making any

impression on the strong position occupied by the forces of the Ameer. Although at the time, news of the recent successes had not arrived, the result shews how well founded were our arguments. Indeed, on an inspection of the map of Eastern Turkestan, it is difficult to imagine how the Chinese could for so long have flattered themselves with the hope of ultimate success. The Tien-shan stretches out easterly from the flank of the great plateau of Central Asia, and finally forms a peninsula, as it were, advancing into the great Desert of Gobi. On the extreme point of the peninsula, the Chinese forces were encamped, while the army of the Ameer was gradually advancing eastward, along both flanks of the chain. The Chinese were at a distance from their supplies, everything having to be carried across the desert to the west, while their opponents had the fertile country adjacent to the Tien-shan to draw their provisions from; while most of the materials necessary for such a warfare as was being carried on, were to be obtained within easy distance. Not only had the forces of the Ameer thus all the advantages of position, not only had they the prestige of previous success, but they were commanded by a man who has shown himself to be probably the best soldier in Asia. It is, therefore, not to be wondered at that the ill-supplied and disheartened troops, over which Tso Tsung-tang found himself placed, should have been unable to hold their own against so formidable a force. It does not, however, appear that the Ameer attacked the army under Tso's command in full force. If we may trust to the rumours which have arrived, he seems rather to have sent a portion of his troops to engage the enemy at Hami, while with the bulk of his army he took the daring expedient of marching across the desert, into the Chinese portion of Kansuh. A review of Yakoob Beg's career, will show that he is a man cut out for great enterprises. The strange order that he has introduced amongst his unruly subjects, and his insistence on their observance of the outward ceremonies of religion, show how fully he has appreciated the necessity of discipline. He has, in fact, made every man in his dominions a soldier in the most essential particular of obedience, and this will go far to explain the success which has hitherto attended his arms. A man does not, however, drill a whole nation for naught. The Ameer could have held his own with a very much

less rigorous system of government than that which he has adopted; and it seems certain that he has long been preparing for some great enterprise. Had it not been that Russia was beforehand, and overran Kokand, it seemed almost certain that the Khanate would have been united to the Kitishahr; but Russia's advance has probably turned the thoughts of the Ameer eastward. If, as is reported, he is really in Kansuh, he will then find himself among his own co-religionists; and though the physical difficulties of the campaign will be somewhat altered, and he will find himself at some distance from his sources of supply, the presence of a friendly population will doubtless be taken advantage of. Altogether, the present prospects of affairs are not encouraging for the Chinese Government; but that body has so estranged itself from the respect of all respectable powers, that but few will be found to sympathise with it in its weakness. From the earliest dawn of history, the Tien-shan has formed the highroad to China from the West. The first founders of the Empire hence found their way to the "Flower Land," and Tsin, Kin, and Yuen have each, in succession, followed their example. If the Chinese Government in its overbearing pride and ignorance, had not thrown down the gauntlet to the Ameer, it might, at least, have been saved a serious degradation.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 10th March, arrived on Monday, by the M.M. steamer *Meikong*.

The English mail of the 17th March, arrived yesterday, by the P. & O. str. *Hindustan*.

A mail leaves to-morrow by the P. & O. steamer *Gwalior*.

The following telegrams have been received:—

The Senate has rejected the nomination of General Dana as United States' Minister in London.

The French state of siege has been raised. Mr. Anderson questioned Mr. Disraeli as to whether there was any precedent for the Queen being absent abroad during the Session. Mr. Disraeli cited a precedent in 1872, and explained that the present reasons were strictly domestic.

The Queen's Title Bill has passed the House of Lords.

Egypt has postponed for three months the payment of the April and May Bonds.

An Indian Loan of four millions sterling has been issued in London.

The Queen's new Title of Empress has been approved by Russia.

The outward bound mail steamer *Surat* has been towed into Lisbon with a damaged shaft. The *Australia* has been despatched to tranship the mails, cargo, and passengers. The Brindisi mail has been postponed until the 21st April.

There is a semi-panic on the Stock Exchange caused by the default of Egypt in not paying the April and May bonds.

Alarming reports have been received from Bosnia and Servia.

A Committee of ways and means has been appointed by Congress for the purpose of framing a new tariff, and it has been agreed to leave tea free.

General Dana's nomination has been rejected, on account of an unproved charge of literary piracy.

M. Gambetta has been elected President of the Budget Committee.

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on the 17th instant, are of the briefest, and contain little calling for special allusion. Volunteers will be glad to learn, perhaps, that the Council continue to look after their interests, and have now ordered that the Rifle Butts shall be lengthened 60 feet, which will be a great improvement; and further, that the expenses of the band shall be met out of the money voted by the Ratepayers for the maintenance of the Corps generally.—A letter was read from Mr. F. E. Heyden, informing the Council, that during the temporary absence of the Hon. J. H. Ferguson, he has been appointed to act as Consul-General for the Netherlands.

We publish on another page a memorandum of the minutes of a meeting of the Trustees of the Shanghai General Hospital, which will doubtless be read with interest.

The annual meeting of the trustees, subscribers, and friends of the Chinese Hospital was held Monday, at the residence of Dr. Johnston. The Very Rev. Dean Butcher presided, and among those present were W. H. Medhurst, Esq., H. B. M.'s Consul; Revds J. Thomas and J. M. W. Farnham; Drs. Henderson, Macgowan, Johnston; Messrs. J. G. Purdon, G. B. Glover, Hanssen, T. Olyphant, Francis, and Wylie. The Chairman remarked that the meeting was of a formal character, the principal and only business being the passing of the report and the statement of accounts for the past year. He was happy to say they could congratulate themselves upon the state of the charity; everything appeared to be going on as well as it could be. The report and financial statement had been in the hands of the subscribers some time, and therefore he thought they could take them as read.—An abstract of the report and balance sheet appeared in our issue on the 22nd inst., and it is unnecessary to publish it again, as both documents have been printed.—On the motion of Mr. Olyphant, seconded by Dr. Macgowan, the financial statement was approved. Mr. Hanssen then proposed the adoption of the report, adding to his proposition a vote of thanks to Drs. Johnston and Henderson, for the valuable services they had rendered the hospital during the past year.—Mr. Purdon seconded the motion, and it was passed.—The Chairman remarked that it was gratifying to notice the increase of vaccination among the Chinese, and the paragraph in the report in reference to it was worthy of notice. He had also heard that men were being sent to different parts of the country with the view of extending the operation as much as possible.—This concluded the meeting, which scarcely lasted ten minutes, and the gentlemen who had taken part in the proceedings then adjourned to the hospital and inspected the wards.

The second half-yearly meeting of the North-China Insurance Company was held Tuesday. The report showed that the premiums earned, less returns and re-insurances, amounted to Tls. 536,598.17; and the losses and claims to Tls. 265,522.34. After deducting charges, a net balance of Tls. 232,032.47 was carried forward, making a total of Tls. 522,186.15 to the credit of the Company on the 31st December last, in addition to the Tls. 600,000 paid-up capital. Mr. F. H. Bell, who presided, explained that since the publication of the report some serious disasters had occurred, notably the losses of the *Orestes*, the *Strathclyde*, and the *Kwangtung*. On the *Orestes*, the company had a full line of £30,000, and on the *Strathclyde* a line of about £13,000, and \$20,000 on the hull of the *Kwangtung*, together with a small line on her cargo. A motion was passed, approving of the appropriation as dividend of Tls. 60,000 to general shareholders, and Tls. 60,000 to contributing shareholders, while another sum of Tls. 60,000 was to be placed to reserve for division hereafter. The retiring Directors and Auditors were re-appointed. The Chairman incidentally stated, that it was proposed to close the old Company after the accounts up to the 31st March had been received, and transfer all outstanding matters to the new Company for liquidation.

We understand that negotiations, which have been in progress for some days past, with reference to the Woosung Tramway, bid fair at present to result in a conclusion satisfactory to all parties. The main anxiety entertained by the Chinese Government being on the score of its "sovereign rights," arrangements have been discussed which are likely to secure all susceptibility on this score, without injury to individual interests or to the ulterior prospects of the enterprise now at stake. Some time will probably elapse before a definite issue can, however, be arrived at in the matter.

The following is a verbatim translation of a paragraph published on Monday in the *Shunpao*, respecting the Woosung tramway:—"China has in consideration the purchase of the tramway. Last Saturday, we reported that Mr. Chinese Secretary Mayers was about to return by that morning's steamer to Peking. We have, however, since learned that, as arrangements were incomplete, and it was requisite to continue the negotiations with the Taotai, he has been obliged to delay his passage till the next steamer. With regard to the matter of the construction of the line to Woosung, the cost of the material and the amount expended for labour are all to be reimbursed by the Chinese Government. Should the money be not all at once forthcoming, whether interest is to be charged at a certain rate, or whether the foreign company is to be allowed to work it for ten years, are points which it is found impossible to settle without Mr. Mayers reporting fully upon them to Sir Thos. Wade, that he may discuss them with the Tsung-li Yamén."

There is no truth in the rumour contained in a paragraph published in the *Hioyo News*, to the effect that "the Taotai of Shanghai has lost his button, the

immediate cause being alleged to be the strong representations made on the part of foreigners as to the recent torturing of a Chinaman for selling land for the Woosung tramway."

On another page will be found some extracts from the circular of a firm of London tea-brokers, to which we call attention as possessing considerable interest just now, on the near approach of the opening of the tea season.

The Ballot on the proposal to open the Cricket Ground, on Sundays, after 1 p.m., has resulted in favour of the opening by a considerable majority.

The second annual Flower-Show at Shanghai, is advertised to be held in the grounds of H.B.M.'s Consulate, on the 9th and 10th proximo.

The Strokes for the "Eights" and "Fours," for the Spring Regatta, were balloted for Wednesday; the result being that Messrs. Johnston and Cory were elected for the eights, and Messrs. Johnston, Sharp and Gipperich for the fours.

The interport four-oar race at Kobé was rowed yesterday, and as will be seen by the subjoined telegram, was won by Kobé, owing to an unfortunate and unlooked-for mishap to the Shanghai crew, who must otherwise have been easy victors:—"Nagasaki, 27th April, 5.5 p.m.: Kobé won; Shanghai led by many lengths; bow broke his oar 300 yards from finish. Yokohama nowhere."

A numerous audience assembled at the Lyceum Wednesday night, on the occasion of the fifth performance for the season of the A.D.C. The pieces selected were H. T. Craven's two-act drama, "The Post-boy," and the sparkling operetta, "Cox and Box," both of which were well received, and at some points elicited loud applause. Before the rising of the curtain, a prologue, written for the occasion, was spoken by Mr. Smallweed, and much applauded.

By the arrival Sunday morning of the steamer *Amoy*, Captain Drewes, from Hongkong, we are enabled to publish particulars respecting the stranding of the steamer *Quangtung*, belonging to Douglas Lapraik and Co., on Ockseu Island, on the morning of the 16th instant, while on a voyage from Hongkong to Foochow. The *Amoy* left the former port between four and five o'clock on Monday afternoon last, and when off Swatow the following morning, she was hailed by the steamer *Sunda*, from Japan. On board the latter vessel was the chief engineer of the *Quangtung*. He was transferred to the *Amoy*, which then steamed for Ockseu Island. On arriving there, the *Quangtung* was found to be full of water, with her stern level with the waves. Her position was so perilous, that fears were entertained that the first heavy sea with a moderate breeze would render her a complete wreck. Her mails, passengers, and as much cargo as could possibly be saved, were transferred to the *Amoy*, to be brought to Shanghai. The *Amoy* stayed alongside the ill-fated vessel for about eight hours, and during that time Her Majesty's ship *Thalia*, homeward bound from Shanghai, also came upon the scene. It was impossible to save much of the cargo of the stranded vessel, as no diving apparatus was at hand,

and it is almost certain that all she contained when the *Amoy* left will be lost, or if not lost, rendered worthless, by the water which filled her fore and after holds. She had on board a quantity of opium, and if this was known among the natives, it is not improbable, judging from past occurrences of a similar nature, that an attack would be made by pirates. Her passengers were one European gentleman named Moorhead, and 37 Chinese in the steerage, all of whom were landed in Shanghai in safety. All the crew were saved. The steamer *Ningpo*, which arrived here Tuesday, from Hongkong, reported having passed the wreck of the *Kwantung*, and seeing several steamers and gunboats alongside, rendering aid. No further news had been received up to the time of our going to press.

Our shipping reports during the week, confirm the idea which was entertained, of the severity of the gale at sea on Friday night. All the vessels, more or less, which arrived in port on Saturday and Sunday, speak of the gale as a hard and violent one from the N.E., accompanied with heavy rain and thick mist, and continuing throughout the night. The str. *Flintshire*, when off the Saddles, experienced the storm in its intensity, and sustained no small amount of damage, while the str. *Glennear*, which was anchored under the Chinsan Island, was tossed about amazingly, but came through without injury.

On Saturday morning, an express was issued by the general agent of the Northern Telegraph Company, to the effect that during the heavy gale of Friday, both river cables were so much injured that all communications were interrupted in consequence. At 6.30 p.m., another express was sent round, intimating that the emergency would be met by despatching a steam-tug the same night to Gutzlaff, from which point the lines were still in order, and this arrangement was to be continued until the damage was repaired. The promptitude displayed to meet such an emergency deserves commendation.

We are informed the P. & O. steamer *Columbian* is taken off the Japan berth; which means, probably, that competition on that route is ended; but it is to be hoped that, although they have once more got the field to themselves, the Mitsui Bishi Co. will see their way to continuing moderate rates of freight and cheap fares.

We are informed that the actor, Yang Yeh-liu, has arrived in Shanghai, having at length been released under the act of grace promulgated at the accession of the Emperor. Why his release has been so long delayed, we have not been able to learn. His meeting with his former compeers, on Saturday night last, at the Peking road Theatre, is described by an eyewitness as having been most affecting. In appearance, Yang looks well, and has become much stouter than he was formerly. He expresses his readiness to resume his occupation, as soon as "arrangements" can be made for him to do so.

In spite of repeated prosecutions on the part of the police, and the gradual increase of the punishments inflicted by the Mixed Court magistrate, from a day's imprisonment to 20, and now 30, blows

with the bamboo, the nuisance caused by jinriksha runners seems to increase. Complaints are heard on all sides of obstruction to foot passengers, caused by the eagerness of these poor fellows to obtain a fare, the result doubtless of the too great competition arising from the excessive number of vehicles licensed to ply. Similar complaints have been made for months past; but under existing arrangements, the efforts to repress the nuisance have been unavailing, for the simple reason that, although the licenses of many of the vehicles were confiscated at the time, they were renewed at the end of each month, when the nuisance of course recommenced. The exertions of the Police, therefore, much resemble the fabled labours of Sisyphus, and are never ending. The only efficient remedy would appear to be the permanent suppression of at least a third of the present number of licenses.

It appears that the trial of T. W. Eckfeldt was postponed in consequence of an application made by himself, in writing to the Court, stating that after consultation with his legal adviser, he found he would not be ready with his defence by Thursday, the day originally fixed. He asked, therefore, that the trial might be adjourned for a week or longer, if the Court would sanction it. The Vice Consul-General granted the application, being willing to give the accused full opportunity to meet the case.

On Sunday morning, an attempt was made to effect an entrance into the store of Meers, Hall & Holtz, through the outfitting department windows in the Nanking road, and had the Police not made the discovery in time, a serious loss of property might have ensued. The native Policeman on the beat saw everything secure at 5 a.m., and subsequently at about 5.10 a.m., the European Serjeant passed the spot and all was then secure; but when the native policeman again returned at about 5.20, he found that several of the wooden bars of the venetians had been wrenched away, and the large $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch plate glass window smashed with a heavy piece of granite, which was left just inside the window. The thief was probably disturbed by the return of the Policeman, as we are glad to learn that but little property is missing, although some valuable shawls and other goods were exposed within easy reach. The most serious loss is the large sheet of plate glass.

The *Times* of March 10th says:—"Subscriptions are asked by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for £274,915, being the unissued balance of the Imperial Chinese Loan of 1874. The bonds bear interest at 8 per cent., and are repayable by yearly drawings within nine years, so that, if China really means to pay, it will be borrowing at a very high rate. After the experience which the public have had of such wonderful investments, it would be surprising if the money was subscribed here. We know hardly anything regarding China or its finances, except that missionary and official reports speak of a deficit as the normal condition of the latter."

We have been favoured with a copy of a Silk Telegraph Code, by Mr. Edward

Holdsworth, of this Settlement, which is certainly a very complete work of its kind. The code is intended especially for those interested in the "noble article," and is available for London, Lyons, and China. The words are arranged according to the new rules of the Telegraphic Convention, none consisting of more than ten letters. The book commences with sentences appropriate to new season and market, the weather, crops, condition, arrivals, estimated yield, prices, &c., all the words relating thereto beginning with the letter A. Letter B includes words having reference to orders, offers, purchases, shipments, &c.; C, refers to consignments and selling "to arrive"; D, to exchange, credit, and kindred subjects; E, to rates of exchange for documentary bills, in sterling and francs; F, to the names of chops and classes of silks; G, to total export of silk from the commencement of season to date;—and so on under other letters for various other quotations relating to the different classes of silk generally. There is also a numeral-column, that can be used for limits in francs; or the number of bales of silk ordered, sold, bought, or shipped, or for quotations in taels; while, if considered as pence, the figures can be used for limits in sterling or for prices at which silk has been sold in London. In short, there appears to be a sentence or sentences for every conceivable and substantial requirement of operators in silk. The published price is \$5 per copy; and we wish the compiler every success in his laborious and useful enterprise.

A fortnight ago, we published information that the forces detailed for the prosecution of the war against the Mahomedans in Sungaria and Kashgaria, under the Governor-General Tso Tsung-t'ang, were in difficulties. On Thursday, further information reached us that the advanced guard of Tso's army had been surprised by the troops of Yakoub Khan, at a place named Ping Leang, and were cut off from the main army. Details are of course anxiously looked for.

At TIENTSIN, a rumour is current that the Viceroy and other high officials have determined on the erection of manufacturing of cotton cloths, either at Shanghai or Ningpo, the mills to contain the latest improvements in machinery. One official is said to have offered Tls. 10,000 towards carrying out the plan.

On another page, we publish a letter, originally written to the *Hongkong Daily Press*, by Dr. J. F. Elmore, Peruvian Minister in China and Japan, in which he denies a statement recently made by our Tientsin correspondent, to the effect that he had made certain presents to the Emperor of China, and that it was afterward circulated amongst the Chinese that they were tribute sent by Peru.

From WUCHANG, a correspondent sends us an extraordinary story. A child was missed, and a great outcry was raised that it had been kidnapped by a medical missionary, who on certain days of the week, attended at a chapel, used as a dispensary, to distribute medicines. The tumult lasted for several hours, but nobody was injured; and as the lost child was found soon after the cry was raised, it was deemed right

that an apology should be made to the foreigners. This was carried out in the somewhat primitive but effective style of sending a man round the streets with a gong, to proclaim to the people that the foreigner had been falsely accused of carrying off the child, and to apologise for the offence. The District Magistrate, too, issued a proclamation, warning the people against a repetition of such rumours, and threatening punishment to any who might be discovered raising such reports.

A meeting of the Legislative Council of HONGKONG was held on the 22nd instant, at which the chief business discussed was the Bill to authorise the China Traders' Insurance Company (Limited) to sub-divide its shares. The memorial from shareholders in the company was read by the clerk, as follows:—"That the China Traders' Insurance Co. (Limited) is a public company, duly incorporated and limited by shares, under the provisions of the 'Companies Ordinance, 1865.' That the memorandum of Association of the said company provides that the capital of the company is one million of dollars, divided into two hundred shares of \$5,000 each. That your memorialists are respectively shareholders of the company, holding altogether one hundred shares. That your memorialists are aware that an Ordinance has been introduced by Your Excellency, in order to enable the company to sub-divide its shares. That your memorialists are of opinion that the passing of the proposed Ordinance will be a very great advantage to the said company, as they have hitherto found that the company's existing shares have been too large for the successful development of its business. Your memorialists therefore humbly pray Your Excellency that the proposed Ordinance to authorise the company to sub-divide its shares may come into force and become law." The preamble of the Bill having been next read, Mr. H. H. Nelson, chairman of the company, was called to prove the statements contained therein, and was questioned at much length.—The Council then proceeded to consider the preamble, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Colonial Secretary.—Two amendments, moved by the Hon. W. Keswick—the first, "That the preamble has not been proved," seconded by the Hon. P. Ryrie; and the second, "That the preamble, as amended, do not pass," seconded by the Hon. H. Lowcock, having been lost by three to five, the Attorney-General moved that the first two paragraphs of the Bill be passed, with the amendment that the amount to which the shares might be reduced to be stated at \$1,500 instead of one-third.—The paragraphs, as amended, were passed, as were also the two remaining paragraphs; and ultimately, the Governor moved, "That the Bill do now pass."—After some further remarks, the motion was carried by five votes against three.—The Hon. P. Ryrie and Hon. W. Keswick gave notice of their intention to enter a protest against the measure.

There has not been much news of importance received from the other OUT-PORTS, during the week.

Editorial Selections.

A CHARACTERISTIC MEMORIAL.

THE memorial of the Literary Chancellor of Szechuen, published on another page, is one of those documents, widely but secretly dispersed amongst the officials of China, with the express object of involving the country in difficulties with foreign nations, to which we owe so many of the unpleasantnesses which have marked the last few years. Published some time ago, probably shortly after the Massacre at Tientsin, and coming as it did from an official in Szechuen, it is quite possible that to it we have to ascribe the chain of circumstances which finally resulted in the murder of poor Margary. Looked at from a critical point of view, the document is beneath contempt. The crass ignorance of affairs displayed is surprising even in a Literary Chancellor, but such ignorance often passes amongst the crowd for knowledge, when it happens to tally with their prejudices. Does Chang Chih-t'ung attempt to persuade himself that the Emperor Hien-fung had any choice in the making of the Treaty of Tientsin? And can he not follow up his own arguments, and see that the wrong doings of his predecessor at the Pearl river had their natural result in the ignominious flight of the Emperor from his palace in Peking? Such is the natural conclusion, which any man capable of exercising the ordinary reasoning faculties given him by nature would draw from the course of events. The Emperor had to leave his Capital and retreat to the wilds of Mongolia, not because his officers had treated with the English, but because that they, aided and abetted by counsel from the highest authorities of the land, had wilfully broken engagements, and had attempted to act in a manner towards England, and the other foreign powers, which no people claiming any self-respect could submit to. Did Chang Chih-t'ung ever see a spoiled child knocking its head against a wall in its vain rage, when refused some hurtful request? If he has not, we would advise him to procure the first specimen of infantile stubbornness he can get hold of, and see how very similar to his own aspirations would be the effect. One thing he rightly estimates—in saying that the question affects the prosperity or ruin of his class. If mandarins in high station will propound such theories and suggest such crimes as Chang Chih-t'ung has put forth in his memorial, their ruin we may assure them, is not far off. The engine of popular excitement is a dangerous one to meddle with, and is far more likely to result in the destruction of those who ignorantly excite it, than in gaining their ends. The people of China have many more grievances to lay to the charge of their would-be protectors, the mandarins, than they have against foreigners; and the popular spirit aroused, it is not at all

likely that their own oppressions would be forgotten in the *melée*. Looking at China from without, we cannot but wonder at the hold which such theorists as Chang have over the mind of the Empire. We can see by sparks now and then, the influence that men, utterly uninstructed in the ways of the world, have over the body politic. Bred up amongst books, studying the Classics by rote, without even understanding their meaning; culling all that is feeble, and all that is unpractical from the ancient records, they would gladly reduce their country to a state of helpless inanity. Chang refers to Chinese history, but Chinese history is as accessible to foreigners as it is to him. The humiliation of the Emperor Yüan-yi was as much the result of the bad faith of a former sovereign, Wu-ti, as was the similar humiliation of Hien-fung the natural consequence of the misconduct of his immediate predecessor. In the former case, retribution was longer in coming, but the connexion is as clear. In 135 B.C., the Emperor Wu-ti made a treaty of peace and friendship with the Huing-nü. The Huing-nü on their side seemed desirous of keeping it inviolate. Not so the Chinese. The Chang Chih-t'ung of his day, one Ni-yih, an old man, of Mayeh, was sent, as it were clandestinely, to treat with the Huing-nü. He pointed out to the latter the wealth that might be obtained by the capture of Mayeh, and pretended to sell the city to them. Allured by the prospects of gain, and trusting to the representations of Ni, the bait began to take. The sovereign of the Huing-nü entered the stockades with a hundred thousand troops; but struck with the curious circumstance that the hills were covered with cattle, with no herdsmen to look after them; and fortunately capturing a Chinese officer who had strayed from his post, he discovered that the whole was a plot, and that the Chinese had three hundred thousand men in ambush, to cut off himself and his people. It was no wonder that the Huing-nü from that time looked upon treaties with China as no better than waste paper, and took their own method of avenging themselves. Such, then, was the real reason of Yüan-yi's humiliation; and the real reason of China's humiliation of to-day is not very dissimilar—the utter faithlessness of her Government. So soon as the Empire comes to respect itself, and to keep its engagements, so soon may it expect to be saved the degradation to which it has just now to submit. There are, however, still too many Ni-yih's and Chang Chih-t'ungs within the borders of the eighteen provinces, to afford much hope of such an improved position of affairs.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

MR. LISTER'S Annual Report on the working of the Post-Office at Hongkong, to which we have before referred in these columns, is interesting and

important, the more especially as it displays a desire to work in harmony with the mercantile communities, and to remove as far as possible all reasonable causes of complaint. The Postmaster-General gracefully acknowledges the assistance rendered to his department by private firms, and makes several useful suggestions in matters of detail. Not the least curious feature of the report is the table of fluctuations in the Post-Office revenue, which it is difficult to bring into consonance with any known law. In 1863, the revenue amounted to \$140,000; in 1865, to \$187,000; and in the next year it dropped to \$164,000. Since that, it has fluctuated, though not to the same degree, from year to year, and is now apparently permanently decreasing. The decrease is, however, partly to be attributed to considerable reductions in postage, which the office, for the sake of public convenience and greater facility, seems desirous of introducing as far as possible. At the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce in Hongkong, it was determined to take steps, in connection with the Chamber here, to memorialize the Home Government on the present exorbitant rates of postage charged on correspondence to and from China. At the time when the increased rates were introduced, there was reason for the alteration. The community wished greater facilities, and to obtain those facilities, the Government had to increase its subsidies. This state of affairs scarcely exists now. The subsidies have been reduced; the French Government has entered the field, with the assistance of the Messageries Maritimes; and the American Government has started a line of mails to San Francisco. Both the French and American Governments have seen the advisability of reducing the high rates of postage prevailing; and the British, which was the first Government to recognise the advantage of cheap mails, now remain alone in holding out for high postages. So long as matters remained in *statu quo*, the residents, notwithstanding the inconveniently high rate of postage, would always be met by the plea that they were themselves parties to the increase. In the face, however, of the fact that the other Governments interested have acknowledged the necessity for reductions, there is the possibility of bringing some pressure to bear on the British authorities, to secure an alleviation of the burden. It is satisfactory, therefore, to find that this practical view is taken by Mr. Lister in his report, and that he draws attention to the inequality of the charges. With the practical working of the Post-Office at Hongkong, there are few causes of complaint, and we are, therefore, the better pleased to find that it is in contemplation to introduce measures which will reduce what the report calls the "almost prohibitive" rates of coast postage. Some little matters do not appear, however, to look as well as they might.

Slight difficulties have arisen with regard to mails from Japan and the North, with French and Japanese steamers, and a great portion of this difficulty, it is evident to residents in Shanghai, occurs through the useless multiplication of Post-Offices in the Settlements. It is difficult to imagine why we should have four Post-Offices instead of one. Mr. Lister shows himself so ready to meet the wishes of the community, that we would make another suggestion which would considerably simplify the working of our postal arrangements at Shanghai. That is, that the Municipal Council should undertake the collection and distribution of all mails. The experiment it has made in the present Local Post-Office has added greatly to the convenience of the public service. Under trained management, it would be found more simple to make one office do the business of collecting and distributing French, English and Japanese mails, than to have the present laborious system. To residents in Shanghai, the change would be a great improvement, to those at the outports it would be a great boon, as the Local Post-Office has, even at present, better means of organization at the outports than the others. The result would be a saving of considerable expense to all concerned, increased facilities to the public, and possibly a small source of revenue to the Council.

JAPAN AND COREA.

NOTWITHSTANDING her many difficulties, financial and otherwise, Japan contrives to hold her own gallantly. Last year, she managed the Formosan affair in a highly creditable manner, and this year she has achieved a signal success by her Korean Treaty. The Japanese native Press is full to overflowing with information concerning the country which has been so long a *terra incognita* to the rest of the world. In common with the inhabitants of another island empire with which we are acquainted, the Japanese are addicted to manias. They get saturated and absorbed in a topic for a month, and then let it drop. The topic now is Korea. The *Hochi Shimbun*, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and the *Choya Shimbun*, and all the papers are full of Korea. Every scrap of information that can be obtained on the subject is seized hold of, printed, and read with the greatest eagerness by all ranks of the people; and a very interesting mass of knowledge relating to the country has been dug out by the newspapers. It is discovered that the Koreans, though acquainted with Chinese characters, frankly confess that they are barbarians. The art of drawing is in a backward state among them, but there are some few Koreans who write poetry, and some who write prose. The country produces tigers and leopards; the cotton cloth is of low quality, but very cheap; the silk is

useless, and the climate cold. There are rarely heavy snowfalls in Korea; and the province of Kogen is the warmest of the eight into which the land is divided. The whole nation is poor, and the number of officials enormous. The population consists of 5,000,000, and is said to have decreased of late years. It seems difficult to find out what are the revenues of the sovereign, but they cannot be very large. These are a few of the facts that the curiosity of the Japanese have discovered regarding the people with whom they have at last entered into treaty relations. They are so extremely satisfied with the *coup* that they have made, that they are disposed to be very generous to the Koreans. It seems that the Government have published the treaty with Korea, but have not thought it needful to publish the letter of apology which was wrong from the Korean Government. The Japanese papers are at first puzzled at this; but they conclude it is all for the best. "After the treaty had been concluded," exclaims the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, "Korea at once became a friendly neighbour of ours. Why, therefore, should we be puffed up with pride, and publish both at home and abroad her letter of apology, so as to obtain for ourselves praise merely in our own neighbourhood." Taking it all together, as we observed in a previous article on the subject, the Japanese have every reason to be satisfied with their treaty. It is a business-like and sensible document, calculated to promote the best interests of both countries; and we trust that it will effect by peaceful processes that result, which two Western expeditions of ships-of-war failed signally to accomplish. Four clauses of the treaty are distinct gains to the "Land of the Rising Sun." It is satisfactory to read that Sorio and two other ports are to be opened for commercial intercourse; that the rocky and dangerous coasts are to be surveyed; and that a Japanese Consul shall be permitted to reside at the treaty ports. These provisions all read like those made by a European power of high rank and intelligence, and show how thoroughly Japan is entering, and indeed has already entered, into the spirit of our civilization.

How painfully, we cannot help adding, China contrasts with her brilliant and active little neighbour. While here, every conceivable obstacle is being raised by the Magistrates to the introduction of the thin edge of the wedge of civilization, and to the most elementary steps in the direction of progress, we find Japan foremost in opening a country hitherto closed. We see her setting an example to the West, and showing how to exhibit, and how to economise pressure for her own good, and for the promotion of the best interests of the land she is dealing with. This surely is a sight which should encourage all those who advocate firmness in the beginning of our

relations with Orientals. Japan treats Korea as she was herself treated. Had the "let alone" policy been adopted with the one country, Korea would have remained closed for another century.

Outports.

NEWCHWANG.

There has been a fair business this season so far in piece goods, at a margin on Shanghai rates, and vessels "seeking" are doing much better than in Chefoo. The *Lunan* and *Tuckson* both British, were chartered at 24 cents, to Swatow. At present, arrivals of ships are only 31, against 53 to same date last year.

TIENTSIN.

We are glad to notice the return of our worthy U. S. Consul, by the *Chihli* on Sunday morning. He was accompanied by the recently appointed U. S. Minister to Peking, the Hon. Geo. F. Seward, former Consul-General at Shanghai.

Yesterday, the Minister called on the Viceroy, and the Viceroy returned the call to-day. Mr. Seward proposes starting for Peking to-morrow.

A rumour is afloat concerning the plans of the Viceroy, which if true, involves matters of interest and importance both to natives and foreigners. The rumour relates to three things. It is stated that the Viceroy and other high officials have determined on the erection of manufactories of cotton cloth, to be located perhaps at Ningpo and Shanghai. These mills are to contain the latest improvements. One official is said to have offered Tls. 10,000 towards the carrying out of this plan.

It is also rumoured that arrangements are making, which will offer such advantages to shippers to patronize the China Merchants' Company, as to render it almost certain that Chinese Merchants will ship by no other line. What the arrangements and advantages are, do not, as yet, appear.

It is known to many, that the production of native opium is on the increase in China. This growth is believed to be encouraged by many of the high officials, if not by the Government itself. The plan proposed is to drive out the foreign article by the native—a drug which is said to suit the Chinese taste, quite as well as the foreign. This accomplished, the opium producing sections will, as speedily as practicable, be turned to grain-growing. I give the rumours as I hear them.

Official reports ought, perhaps, to be credited; but we confess to an inability to reconcile the statements of Governor Li, as contained in the *Peking Gazette* of March 24th, concerning the liberality of the soldiers engaged in the erection of the fortifications of Sin Chéng, with the deserts that have occurred, and the complaints of insufficient pay that have been made from time to time, since the commencement of that work. These facts seem to bear a different construction.

Still no rain, though there have been some indications of its proximity within the last three days in occasional S. E. winds, and obscured sky and a cooler atmosphere. The dust continues unabated.

April 18th.

CHEFOO.

The Fort on the hill opposite the town is progressing fast, hundreds of workmen being busily employed in its construction. The new Hotel is also being pushed forward, and will very soon be roofed in.

CHINKIANG.

An occasional correspondent writes:—I have not much in the way of news to send you, but I do my best, and can no more. We had our first cricket match the other day, "Customs v. Community," the latter being very victorious—one lucky individual making a score of 67, beating the Customs off his own bat by four runs and one innings. I refrain from sending you the full score, but we hope for better things before the season closes.—We have lately been blessed with a fresh detachment of 500 soldiers, who have taken up their abode on the top of the hill, at the back of the Settlement. I hear they came from Yang-chow, and that they are destined for Woosung; at any rate, we sincerely hope so. Rain has at last fallen, and we hope it will bring business after it, as things are in a wretched state still.

—The latest excitement here, says a correspondent, writing on the 26th inst., is the disappearance of Captain Roach, of the *lorcha Poyang*, who has been missing two days. It is supposed that he must have fallen into the river, whilst going on board. All search for him, up the time of writing this, has been unavailing.—On the night of the 25th instant, a foreign hong was broken into, the thieves carrying off, as stated, about a chest of opium, together with \$250 in sycee, but leaving behind them a bank order for Tls. 1,300, which was in the same box. Their mode of operation was to first break through the outer wall of the house, and then to open the front door, through which the plunder was carried off. The most curious part of the robbery was, that the thieves had to pass through a room in which two men were sleeping. These say the thieves must have had a "piece of burning sandalwood steeped in some narcotic, which stupefied them, and so prevented them hearing any noise." Following out the adage about "shutting the stable door when the steed is stolen," everyone now is on the *qui vive*, and has ordered his watchman to keep a good look-out against a return of the experts.—The natives here have an idea that the wall now being built round the new Consulate grounds, and which takes in a good portion of the hill on which the building stands, is intended for a fort; and rumour adds that the Chinese authorities are going to enter a protest against the continuation of the work.—A native dealer, who had purchased goods here, and had got about 100 miles north of this on his return journey, was unable to proceed further, owing to want of water in the creeks. Some thieves, seeing his predicament, made a raid upon the boat, and lightened it of two bales of piece goods, possibly in the hope that the trader would then be able, through his boat drawing less water, to proceed to his destination.

Messrs. Spencer and Wolf, writing on the 26th instant, say:—The business in Grey Goods during the week under review has been very trivial, being confined almost entirely to the supply of local requirements. Stocks on the spot are small, and similar advices reach us from the country, so a demand may spring up at any moment. *Grey Shirtings*.—Good medium 8½ lbs. and 7-lbs. cloth has been in some request, at prices ranging from Tls. 1.70 a Tls. 1.75 per piece for the former, and Tls. 1.40 a Tls. 1.43 for the latter. *T-Oloths*.—6-lbs. and 8-lbs. are entirely neglected, but sales of 7-lbs. ordinary Mexicans are reported at Tls. 1.28 a Tls. 1.34 per piece. *Sandalwood*.—Best quality is in fair enquiry, at Tls. 3.60 per picul. *Malwa Opium*.—A further decline has taken place, and the highest figure obtainable is Tls. 433 for *fine hard new drug*.

WUCHANG.

Rumours of an uneasy and alarming character to the credulous Chinese, have

been ripe in this neighbourhood during the last few weeks. Whether they arose from the fact of a large quantity of war material—principally heavy gun carriages—landed here from the Shanghai Arsenal, and really intended for transmission to the army in Kansuh, or from recent movements of the celebrated Lieuchang-man's troops which have been posted in and around the provincial capital, or from any other cause, is not known. Certain it is, that reports have been current about an expected insurrection; some describing it as a re-appearance of the old Taiping rebels, and others declaring it to be a movement on the part of the equally dreaded foreign devils. Many of the country people, it is said, were so alarmed, as to have made preparations for the safe removal of their household gods, and not a few of the more knowing inhabitants of the city were sufficiently excited to make anxious enquiries of those who were supposed to be in the secret.

Just as these rumours were dying out, a new cause of excitement was found last week. A trivial circumstance in itself, it might have resulted in the most serious consequences, had not an official, with sufficient energy, appeared in time upon the scene, and dispersed the mob—thus saving the foreign property.

It seems that the Americans have a chapel on one of the principal streets of the city, which is used as a Dispensary on certain days of the week. Last Thursday afternoon, a considerable number of patients were being attended to by the medical missionary, when a cry arose that a child had been kidnapped by the foreigner. Immediately, the news flew from house to house and street to street, and in a very short time a great crowd had collected in the chapel, and blocked up the street in front of it. To give a colouring of truth to the story, and to add to the excitement, the mother and other female relations of the child appeared in the chapel, and knocking their heads to the ground, entreated the foreigner to deliver the child. Of course, the foreigner protested that no child had been detained by him, and invited them to examine all his medicine presses and every part of his rooms, which they did. But their lamentations on leaving the chapel only served further to mystify and increase the excitement of the crowd, while it aroused the resentment of a few who were bent upon mischief. Fortunately, at this juncture, the constable of the district made his appearance, and soon after came the commandant in charge of that part of the city, who speedily cleared the chapel, and put an end to the disturbance.

For several hours afterwards, large numbers of people, from all quarters, were collected in the street, discussing what had happened; and one or two foreigners with their Chinese friends were insulted on the way home, but beyond this no other evil result followed.

As the child that had disappeared, was found soon after the cry was raised and as the relations of the child had directed the suspicions of the mob to the foreign chapel, it was deemed right that some apology should be made by them. Accordingly on the following day, a man was sent round the streets in the neighbourhood with a gong, to proclaim to the people that the foreigner had been falsely accused of carrying off the child, and that they apologized for the offence. A proclamation has also been issued by the District Magistrate, warning the people against a repetition of these rumours, and threatening with punishment any who should be discovered raising such reports.

NINGPO.

The annual meeting of the Ningpo Book Club was held on Friday evening, Mr. Dick in the chair. The Secretary's report

having been read and the accounts passed, the Committee for the year was appointed. Mr. Patrick Davidson, the indefatigable Secretary, being re-elected by acclamation. It was announced that the closing lectures of the series would be delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Bates and Butler. The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the lecturers of the season, the Secretary, and the Chairman.

FOOCHOW.

The *Herald* says the Futai has issued instructions for the immediate disbandment of the Gingel troops, who are to be replaced by men armed with foreign rifles. It is rumoured that the Bow-and-Arrow Men are also to be disbanded.—The Chinese Authorities have not, up to the present time, taken over the gunboats *Fuh Sheng*, and *Chien Sheng*. The vessels remain under British colours; and we understand that the difficulty in regard to their purchase is far from settled.—The Futai has forbidden "Joss" processions in the City.—The Native Authorities have resumed the casting of big guns at the City Arsenal.—The Chinese Authorities have shown some hesitation in appointing efficient pupils to the new school of telegraphy, which has been established under the management of the Great Northern Telegraph Company at this port. Candidates for instruction are required to be fairly conversant with the English language, and the Government School of Hongkong has, it is believed, been requisitioned to meet this demand.—It is not often that we hear of honesty being rewarded in this virtuous country, and it therefore gives us all the more pleasure to record the following story, for the accuracy of which we can vouch. Ting, the present Futai, when Commissioner at the Mamoi Arsenal, visited the Camp near that establishment one night, in disguise, and demanded admission. The gatekeeper, who had strict orders to prevent either ingress or egress, was staunch, and refused bribes, in fact, completely baffled the would-be intruder. H. E. Ting departed, and next day sent the faithful janitor a cumshaw of 10,000 cash.—The Chinese corvette *Yang Woo* returned from her cruise on the 5th instant.

HONGKONG.

The *Mail* says, although the seizure of the *Carisbrooke* has led to the opening of a port in Hainan to British trade, nothing, apparently, has as yet been decided upon regarding the delinquency of that steamer. Her cargo is still in Messrs. Russell & Co.'s godowns, at Wanchi, and as a great portion of it is composed of fish, raw hides, and other perishable merchandise usually found in native cargoes, it is not likely to improve by age. In fact it is understood that much of the cargo is already in a decomposed state.—From Swatow, the news had been received that the str. *Namoa*, on her passage from Amoy to Foochow, broke her shaft and had to put back to Amoy, where her spare shaft is being got ready. The *Namoa's* cargo was transhipped into the *Kuangtung*.—The new Temperance Hall is succeeding admirably, being extensively patronised by those for whom it was intended.—The Royal Naval Regatta is reported as having been very successful.—A mandarin arrived in the colony a few days ago, to make enquiries respecting the grasping propensities of a fellow official, who was sent here when the Formosan excitement was at its height, to purchase guns and ammunition. It has been discovered that this deputy had purchased match-lock guns, and had them converted into percussion guns. The price he paid was some ninety cents a piece, while he charged the Government \$31. Some 13,000 pieces were bought,

and the profit he made can be imagined. When the energetic Ting came into office, he enquired into everything, and the result was the despatch of a mandarin here to get evidence of the fraud. This mandarin returned on the 7th instant by the *Yesso*, and ere this the swindling official has, no doubt, been placed in durance vile. Some say his punishment is likely to be decapitation, as he is liable to be tried by martial law, the fraud being perpetrated while war was expected with Japan, and in a transaction connected with warfare.—On the 15th, a cricket match was played between an eleven from the Detached Squadron and eleven from the Cricket Club.—The Club went first to the wickets, and scored 64, out of which 30 runs were made by Sanderson. The Squadron in their first innings made 66, 25 being gained by Mr. Moore of the *Narcissus*. The elevens appeared to be pretty evenly matched. The second innings was commenced at 4 o'clock; when the Club scored 121, making in all 185. The Squadron had made 21, with 3 wickets down, when the stumps were drawn. The game was to be renewed.—Good Friday was kept here with all the decorum of a Sunday; even the Chinese Theatres, which were allowed to be opened in former years, being closed by order of the Government.—The *Press* says, the Chinese in Canton feel a good deal of alarm in consequence of the appearance of the Flying Squadron in harbour here.—The Hongkong Temperance Hall, Stanley-street, was to be opened on the 17th inst., by Vice-Admiral Ryder, with a tea and entertainment for soldiers, sailors, and others.—The *Press* observes that Dr. Denny has brought back from Hainan what seems to be a very full collection of the natural products of the island, including textile fabrics, sugar, oils, woods, rattan ware, medicines, &c., &c. The samples are being arranged for the inspection of the Chamber of Commerce before being handed over to the City Hall Museum, and will be on view to the members of the Chamber for the next few days in their rooms at the City Hall.

MALACCA.

The *Straits Times* states that a report was received by the Straits Government on the 7th instant from Malacca, that a body of armed men said to come from Pahang and to be led by Datu Antar, had attacked the Police Station at Quala Pela, and killed a Police Constable. Captain Murray had left Raasa on the 28th March, with all the available force at his disposal, to repel the attack, and on the 6th instant, Raasa was reinforced from Malacca by 40 men of the 10th Regiment and 10 Artillerymen. The small body of Police stationed at Qualla Jumpole have come into Malacca, finding their communications with Sunghie Ujong cut off. It has been thought desirable to send down a reinforcement of 50 men of the 80th Regiment by H.M.S. *Ringdove*, and H.E. the Governor followed on the 7th instant in the *Modeste*, being anxious to ascertain the state of affairs on the spot.

MANILA.

The *Ormoc* arrived here from Jolo on the 10th instant, bringing news of another grand victory. Lian is the name of the place, which is about three miles distant from the town of Jolo, and like all the settlements in Sulu, consisted of a few dozen bamboo and mat-sheds, which were gallantly stormed by the troops and subsequently fired. The stockades at Jolo appear to have been transformed into "impregnable forts," and by to-day, everything was to be in readiness for the departure of the expedition. The 1st and 2nd Regiments and 1st and 2nd companies of another regiment of infantry, with a

company of artillery and another of regiment of engineers, are to remain and garrison the forts for the present, while afloat the place is to be protected by the *Vencedora* and several gunboats.

Here, preparations on a grand scale continue for the reception of the victorious army on Easter Monday or Tuesday, an awning is being put up from the Wharf to the Cathedral, a distance of about a mile—under which the troops will march to assist at the "Te Deum," which promises to be a grand affair. Thus far 17 triumphal arches are in course of erection on the route, and eleven bands of music have been allotted places.

The *Ormoc* landed between sixty and seventy sick and wounded, threw several, who died on the passage up, overboard, and left in Jolo over three hundred to be brought up by other steamers.—*Daily Press*.

12th April.

HIOGO.

The postage-rate muddle appears to be as great in Japan as in China. The *News* says, to try and understand all the rates by possible routes from Japan to Europe is now a serious task. A letter that, via San Francisco, would be 10 cents, is by an English mail 30 via Brindisi, and 12 by a French mail, except to Great Britain; and according to a letter in the *Japan Mail* the nationality in the two latter cases depends upon the post-office used and not on the flag of the steamer which actually carries the mails. The muddle appears to have arisen from England's declining to extend the benefits of the postal convention to her Indian Empire, the result of which will apparently be in Japan and China to drive all the business into the hands of the American and French post-offices.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Herald* mentions that owing to illness, Mr. Hamilton, the stroke of the crew intended to pull in the challenge race at Kobe Regatta, has been obliged to cease rowing, his place being taken by Mr. Litchfield, the former coach. At this advanced period of the training, much disappointment is naturally felt at the mischance, but it is hoped Mr. Litchfield will be retained as stroke oar.—The *Yeiiri Shimbum* says the Government office of chemistry (*Shiyakujo*) has instituted analytical examination of the drinking water of the Imperial household.—In June last, an action important to shippers, was brought by Messrs. Simon, Ever & Co. against Capt. Dau, of the German barque *Mathilde*, for damages to some cloth consigned to them, and which had sustained injury by being stowed in close proximity to some chloride of lime, when a verdict for the sum of \$2,820.31 and costs was given in favor of the plaintiffs. Against this defendant appealed, but intelligence has now reached here that Mr. Zappe's judgment has been confirmed by the Court of Appeal at Stettin.—The proclamation forbidding the promiscuous wearing of swords having made these weapons useless property, an enterprising merchant in Tokio is buying up all he can get of the old blades, it is supposed with a view of exportation to other lands.—In Aikawa Ken, many of the *samurai* have engaged in various business enterprises, but nearly all of them have lost money in their operations.—On the 5th instant, Shimadzu Saburo, accompanied by a retinue of sixteen followers, took ship for the South. Contrasted with the state in which he formerly journeyed along the Tocaïdo, when Richardson was murdered by his retainers, Shimadzu Saburo's

train, as it passed along Main Street to the place of embarkation, presented a very humble appearance. Shimadzu himself sat in a norimon, a few retainers walked in front, and a number of spectators straggled after him. Neither the redoubtable Shimadzu, nor any of his followers wore swords,—thanks to the recent Government notification,—but carried them wrapped up in cloths, as so much luggage for their journey home. Shimadzu is a human fossil of a former epoch, and he and his sword may now be interred in a common grave, as useless to the present generation.—Mr. Yanagiwara has been rewarded by the Mikado for his successful services in China in the Formosan affair, by a present of 1,000 yen.—Street rumour says that the reason of the change in the Yego Gakko, in Tokio, of male for female teachers, has been brought about by the fashion almost universal among foreign female missionaries of employing male teachers. Many of the native officials having observed this, and taking it to be a mark of advanced civilization to have one sex always taught by the other, have therefore decided to conduct the Yego Gakko on this most approved plan of modern civilization.—The *Gazette* mentions that at a levee held by the Mikado, decorations were conferred upon General Le Gendre and Monsieur Boissonade de Fontarabie. H.M. also made the following munificent presents in consideration of valuable services rendered by the recipients to his Government. To Monsieur Boissonade de Fontarabie, yen 2,500; to General Le Gendre, yen 2,000; and to Mr. Yanagiwara as above stated, yen 1,000.—For two days in succession, Yokohama has been visited with shocks of earthquake, of greater or less intensity. One on the 11th instant, at about 2 p.m., lasted for nearly minute, and this one appears to have been felt severely at Tokio, the people hastily getting up, and running into the streets in their night clothing.—The *Advertiser* says, "The Petroleum Company of Yedo has, according to a Japanese newspaper, announced its bankruptcy after a somewhat unusual fashion. The Company, it would seem, finding itself unable to pay its debt to a foreign creditor formerly in its employment, caused a notice of its bankruptcy to be placed in a finely ornamented frame, hung with purple crape, and placed it in a prominent position in the front of their buildings."

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

April 5th.—(1) A decree, commanding renewed prayers for rain, in consequence of the protracted drought. All the official shrines, both far and near, are to be resorted to; and his Majesty will himself proceed, on the 8th inst., to the Ta Kao Tien, for the purpose of offering incense.

(2) A decree. Let Wang Kia-pih 王家壁 be transferred to fill the post of Vice-Governor of Shun-tien Fu; and let Yang Hung-ki take his place as Sub-Director of the Court of Judicature. (See yesterday's *Gazette*.)

(3) The Court of Censorate memorializes, forwarding the appeal of Chow Sieh-she, a woman of Sze-ch'wan, who complains against her husband for repudiating her as his wife, and against the wife he has taken in second marriage for causing the death of her son, with a view to gaining possession of her property.—Referred in the usual manner.

April 6th.—(1) A decree, granting an extension of two months to the time during which the charitable asylums at Peking are to be kept open, with an allowance of 200 piculs of grain and Tls. 400 in silver for their maintenance.

(2) The Governor of Kweichow, Li Pei-king, memorializes with reference to the hardships endured by persons undergoing detention as witnesses connected with criminal trials. He refers to the memorial presented in April last by the Censor Wang Chao-lan, on the excessive mortality occurring in the prison of the Board of Punishments at Peking, with the decree issued thereupon; and proceeds to say that both himself, when heretofore filling the post of Financial Commissioner of the Province, and the Judicial Commissioner, Lin Chao-yuan, had paid attention to the due administration of the criminal laws, in addition to the care it had been incumbent upon them to take for the conduct of military affairs and the organization of civil government. He recalls the fact that, thirty or forty years ago, an essay was written by an official named Tang Yung-chung on the principal cruelties entailed upon persons undergoing temporary detention, an abstract of which, eloquently exposing the hardships to which this class of prisoners is exposed, he proceeds to give. Under the head of "parties to a case," he observes, may be classed individuals who are involved in a pending trial, possibly through calumnious accusation, or else as relatives of a murdered person, or merely as witnesses. Although innocent of all crime, they are exposed, even in their native district, to the rough summoning of yamen police, and to oppression on the part of the local headboroughs, so that absolute ruin of their worldly circumstances is scarcely to be avoided. Once sent up for trial to the provincial capital, a distance, it may be, of several hundreds of miles, which involves not only loss of time but also the abandonment of their means of livelihood, they arrive at their destination mere skin and bone, and are lodged in the common prison, without being distinguished in any wise from the convicted criminals confined there. Deprived of all means of providing for their own wants, and removed from the possibility of assistance on the part of their friends, all that they have to subsist upon is the allowance of some tens of *cash* per diem, furnished by subscription on the part of the authorities. Even this pittance is liable to be abated through the avarice and exactions of their jailers and the petty official who superintends the prison. In hot weather, pestilences are engendered amongst them through overcrowding and filth; in winter, their sufferings are aggravated by cold and hunger combined. Continued mortality is the inevitable result, and wrongs are consequently left without redress. The author of the pamphlet quoted from, makes the following statement:—In two districts of Chekiang, which he had personally visited, the deaths of prisoners, over and above those who were in confinement for actual crime, amounted to 300 or 400 per annum. In the Hwai-ning district in Anhwei, he never entered the Magistrate's yamen without seeing 2 or 3 corpses laid out for the official inquest; and he is of opinion that the mortality there was not less than in Chekiang. At Pao-ting, in Chihli, he found the prison even more crowded than elsewhere, and the deaths amounting to 500 or 600 per annum. The state of affairs elsewhere may be judged from these examples; and he asserts that ten thousand lives per annum, sacrificed in this manner, would be an inadequate estimate for the whole Empire. The memorialist adopts as beyond dispute this picture of the prison system of China, remarking, however, that the author of the exposure had proposed no remedy for the evils he denounced. He himself, with the assistance of his chief official subordinates, has now endeavoured to provide a practical means of relief, by establishing at Kwei-yang Ku a separate House of Detention for persons brought up in connection with pending trials. The poverty

of the Provincial Exchequer forbids the appropriation of Government funds to this purpose; but by a subscription, headed by himself and joined in by all the heads of department and local authorities, a sum of Taels 5,000 has been collected, which has been placed out at interest to meet the cost of the intended amelioration. Rations are to be provided for the persons undergoing detention, a staff of servants and cooks employed, and paid official inspectors to be provided. The rules drawn up for the management of this undertaking are submitted for approval, and it is besought that a decree may be issued, enjoining steps of a similar nature on all the Provincial Governments.—Rescript: Let the Board concerned consider and report hereupon.

Public Meetings.

NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

The second half-yearly meeting of the shareholders in the North-China Insurance Company, was held Tuesday, at the offices in Hankow road. In the unavoidable absence of the Chairman of the Company (Mr. E. H. Lavers), Mr. F. H. BELL was elected to preside. The gentlemen present were:—Messrs. J. Hart, H. P. Hansen, M. S. Gubbay, and A. G. Wood, Directors; Messrs. C. Thorne, C. J. Skeggs, D. Jones, J. G. Purdon, W. H. Dalgliesh, E. P. Hague, J. Campbell, W. Howie, J. J. Tucker, J. B. Tootal, F. Nissen, W. H. Percival, H. Hertz, R. Francis, P. Maclean, F. Gilman, C. M. Dyce, J. Macgregor, A. J. Pollock, and E. Gipperich, Shareholders; and Mr. H. S. Morris, Secretary; representing 501 votes.

The CHAIRMAN said—In the temporary absence of our Chairman, I have very great pleasure in accepting the office. It is not the first time I have had the pleasure of presiding over these meetings, and it has at all times been very satisfactory; and on this occasion, I am glad to say, that the burden is not much more onerous than has hitherto been the case.

The SECRETARY then read the notice convening the meeting, and the minutes of the first half-yearly meeting held on the 15th of October, 1875, and reported in the *Daily News* on the following day.

The CHAIRMAN said—You have heard the minutes read, and if you are satisfied that they are accurate, we will take them as confirmed.

The minutes were then confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN said—The first business before the meeting, is the consideration of the report and statement of accounts for the year ending the 31st of December, 1875. The report and statement of accounts have been before you some time, and as has been the custom on former occasions, I think we may take them as read. I have not very much to say about the accounts. I will first draw your attention to the fact that the premium for 1875 is the largest the Company has ever made since its formation. For 1875 our premium account is over one million, whereas in 1874 it was about Tls. 860,000, in 1873 about Tls. 738,000, and in 1872 about Tls. 970,000. Since 1873, however, as you are all aware, we have had to introduce the large coast discount of 33½ per cent. on local risks in China and Japan, and it really amounts to a very considerable item. On the Hongkong business alone, which is a very large item in our local trade, the increased discount will amount to about \$30,000 for the past year. As many of the shareholders will probably very carefully compare the accounts of this year with those of previous years, for the purpose of forming an idea of the progress of the business, it may be as well to mention, that the introduction, which was brought to

your notice last year, of the lower rate of exchange, will make a considerable difference as to the actual position of premium and loss. It will increase the amount of loss, and it will also increase the amount of premium. The payments and receipts at the London branch are so large, that the money when converted into Taels makes a marked difference of course. It has been thought advisable by the Directors to reduce even further the rate of exchange, and for this year we propose to take 5s. 3d. as a fair exchange. I am sorry again to have to refer to the large amount of losses and disasters which have occurred. They are most of them all first-class risks and first-class steamers, bound both outward and homeward. The outward losses have been very disastrous, and no doubt they will appear to some of the shareholders as being very large; but after careful consideration, the Directors have come to the conclusion, that the lines they are taking are not out of proportion to the large business done, and the large capital they have to work upon; and I think the result will prove to you that they are not out of proportion to the experience of underwriting associations at home. The Indian risks have also been unremunerative. Since the publication of the report, I am sorry to say we have some serious casualties to bring to your notice; notably the *Orestes*, the *Strathclyde*, and more recently the *Kwangtung*, all of them first-class vessels. On the *Orestes*, the Company had a full line of £30,000, but according to recent accounts we hope there may be some considerable salvage. On the *Strathclyde*,—a disaster well known to all that no management in the world could have avoided,—we had a line of £12,000 or £13,000; but I am pleased to say that in this case also it is probable there will be some salvage, and if the *Franconia* is held to blame, and I think all of us believe it is most certain she will be, she will have to bear £8 per a ton on her registered tonnage. On the *Kwangtung*, we had only a small line on the cargo, which I consider a piece of good fortune, for generally, we have very large lines on these vessels, and particularly when they carry treasure; and on her hull, in common with other local offices, we had a line of \$20,000, and I believe she was not fully insured. I do not know that I have anything else to say about the accounts, but I may mention that the premium since earned up to the present date, so far as we know, is about Tls. 206,000. I have nothing more to remark at present, but if there is any further explanation I can give of the accounts, I shall be very glad to do so. The proposition I have to make to you is—

That the report of the Directors, and accounts for the half-year ending 31st December, 1875, be passed as printed.

Mr. A. G. WOOD—I have pleasure in seconding the motion.

The CHAIRMAN—If no gentleman has a question to ask, or requires any further explanation of the accounts, &c., I will put the resolution to the meeting.

The resolution was then unanimously passed.

REPORT.

The Directors in presenting to the Shareholders the second half-yearly Report, have the pleasure to state that the business of the Company for the year 1875, has, so far as at present ascertained, resulted satisfactorily. Upon reference to the annexed Accounts, it will be noticed that the Premiums earned, less Returns and Re-insurances, amount to Tls. 536,598.17; the Losses and Claims to Tls. 265,522.34; the net balance carried forward after deducting charges being Tls. 232,032.47, making a total of Tls. 522,186.15 at the Company's credit on the 31st December last, besides the paid-up Capital, Tls. 600,000. In accordance with the Deed of Settlement (Clause 94), the Directors have ascertained as far as practicable the profits of the past year, and after providing for all pendencies and

keeping in hand a sufficient sum to cover liability in respect of unexpired risks, they recommend the appropriation of Tls. 180,000, as follows:—Tails 60,000 payable to Shareholders, equal to Tails 60 per share; Tails 60,000 payable to Contributing Shareholders; Tails 60,000 to be placed to reserve for division hereafter. The following appointments of Agents have been made since the last Report was issued, viz:—At Kiukiang—Mr. A. Bean in lieu of Messrs. R. Francis & Co. At Chinkiang—Messrs. Spencer and Wolff. At Hakodadi—Messrs. Howell & Co. At Lyons—Mr. C. S. Haden is authorised to survey damaged goods and arrange claims.

Directors.—Mr. J. M. Vickers having resigned, Mr. A. G. Wood has been elected a Member of the Court. The Directors now retire from Office, but are eligible and offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors.—Mr. Rowley Miller and Mr. Peter Maclean also retire, and the Directors recommend that they be re-appointed.

Dr.	Tls.
To Capital paid up, 1,000 Shares at Tls. 600 per Share	600,000.00
„ Balance of Working Account, 30th June, 1875	290,153.68
Add—Amount at Debit of Working Account, 31st December, 1875	232,032.47
	522,168.15
	Sh. Tls. 1,122,186.15

Cr.	Tls.
By Cash on Current and Deposit Accounts, in Local Banks	695,126.25
„ Shanghai Premia, outstanding (since collected)	10,705.10
„ London Branch, Balance in hand, as follows:—	

ASSETS.	£ s. d.
Cash at London and Westminster Bank ..	11,824 19 2
Deposits upon Security of Bank Bills	20,600 0 0
Three per cent. Consols ..	9,468 15 0
Indian Railway Stocks ..	26,013 16 3
Premia in course of collection	13,456 3 6
Office Furniture	610 0 0
Bills Receivable, not matured	10,245 3 4
Interest accrued uncollected	762 11 1
Policy Stamps, Petty Cash, &c.	445 11 9
	92,832 01

LIABILITIES.	Tls.
Re-insurance, Premia due, Claims settled, but not paid, &c.	1,669 15 7
	91,162 4 6
Add—Remittances not received, 31st December, 1875	1,041 4 0
	92,203 9 3
Less—Drafts by Agents not presented on 31st December, 1875 ..	1,368 11 6
	£ 90,804 17 6

By Hongkong Branch, Balance in hand, as follows:—	£ s. d.	Tls.
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on Current Account	40,013.20	
Premia uncollected and Sundries	25,216.05	
	\$65,229.25	48,921.04

„ Yokohama Branch, Balance in hand	4,128.31
„ Sundry Agents—Premia outstanding	39,961.33
Less—Due to Sundries	1,110.30
	38,851.03
„ North-China Insurance Company 1872 and 1874	1,226.23
„ Furniture at Head Office, Hongkong and Yokohama	7,385.21
	Sh. Tls. 1,122,186.15

Dr.	Tls.
To Net Premia, from 1st July to 31st December, 1875	536,598.17
„ Interest, from 1st July to 31st December, 1875	17,970.71
„ Commissions, from 1st July to 31st December, 1875	926.61
„ Transfer Fees, from 1st July to 31st December, 1875	21.00
	Sh. Tls. 555,516.69

Cr.	Tls.
By Agency Commissions, 1st July to 31st December, 1875	9,990.38
„ Agency Charges, 1st July to 31st December, 1875	2,935.47
„ Head Office Charges, 1st July to 31st December, 1875	14,515.16
„ London Branch Charges, 1st July to 31st December, 1875	12,589.03
„ Hongkong Branch Charges, 1st July to 31st December, 1875	7,314.79
„ Yokohama Branch Charges, 1st July to 31st December, 1875	2,283.26
„ Directors and Auditors' Fees, 1st July to 31st December, 1875	3,100.00
„ Exchange Account, 1st July to 31st December, 1875	4,309.77
„ Losses and Claims paid, 1st July to 31st December, 1875	265,522.34
„ Depreciation of Furniture, 1875	924.02
„ Balance	232,032.47
	Sh. Tls. 555,516.69

THE CHAIRMAN.—The next portion of my duty is very pleasant. It is to propose that we declare a dividend for the past year. The Directors have ascertained as accurately as they can, the position of the Company, and they are very glad to think they can safely recommend a distribution of a portion of the profits. Since the accounts were printed, the balance has been reduced by claims and returns by about Tls. 81,000, but salvage received and returns leave a balance, as far as we can judge, of about Tls 450,000. It may seem perhaps to some shareholders that we are not distributing a large enough dividend, but I must remind you that yet we have not received news of the arrival of a large number of vessels, and the risks therefore on them are still outstanding; and in pursuance of the policy always adopted by the Company, the Directors thought it advisable to hold a large sum in hand. This policy has always worked well, and I do not think it would be wise to depart from it. The company being triennial, the contributors have a right to share in the profits of the entire term; and as the profits of the year have been large, and I hope they will never be less, we must take great care that all contributing shareholders will be safe of the amount they will be entitled to receive at the end of three years. On consideration of all the circumstances, therefore, the Directors thought it would be quite sufficient to set aside about Tls. 180,000 for immediate distribution on the business of the past year. We shall then retain in hand ample funds to cover all outstanding risks, and we propose that Tls. 60,000 should be distributed among the shareholders, Tls. 60,000 to contributing shareholders, and Tls. 60,000 carried according to the Deed of Settlement to the Reserve Fund. I have, therefore, now to propose—

That the sum of Tls. 180,000 be appropriated as proposed in the report; Tls. 60,000 being paid to shareholders generally, Tls. 60,000 to contributing shareholders, and Tls. 60,000 be placed to reserve for division hereafter.

MR. H. P. HANSEN.—I second it. The motion was adopted.

MR. J. G. PURDON.—I expect this is the proper time to propose the resolution which has been put into my hands, and I have great pleasure in bringing it forward. It is—

That the present Court of Directors be re-elected for the current year, viz., Messrs. E. H. Lavers, F. H. Bell, J. Hart, H. P. Hansen, M. S. Gubbay, and A. G. Wood.

MR. W. H. DALGLISH seconded, and the motion was unanimously carried.

MR. J. HART.—I have a very pleasing task to perform. I have to propose—

That Messrs. Rowley Miller and Peter Maclean be re-appointed auditors to the Company for the current year.

I do not think I need mention how faithfully they have discharged their duties in the past, and I am sure we all feel they will be equally successful in the future.

MR. M. S. GUBBAY seconded the motion, and it was carried with acclamation.

THE CHAIRMAN.—We have now finished the business of the meeting, unless some gentleman has something to bring forward. As nearly all the shareholders are interested in the Company of 1872-74, I may say the Directors are waiting for the accounts from London up to the 31st of March. When it is proposed to close the old Company, and transfer outstanding matter to the present office for liquidation. This, as you are probably aware, is considerably earlier than usual, but we have managed to reduce the old office to such a fine point that I think we shall be able to do so on the receipt of these accounts up to the 31st of March, and if so, we shall then be able to declare a final dividend.

The meeting then dispersed.

SHANGHAI GENERAL HOSPITAL.

Memorandum of the Minutes of a Meeting of the Trustees of the Shanghai General Hospital, held on the 10th and 11th April, 1876, regarding a site for the New Hospital.

THE CHAIRMAN read a letter from Mr. Groom, making a positive offer on the part of Mr. Blethen, on the basis as detailed in the previous Minutes, but raising the total to Tls. 29,500. This, he (the Chairman) said was quite different from what they were led to expect, and he doubted much if it were within their means. At the last meeting, the sites they had really to consider were reduced to four, viz., Mr. Hanbury's and Père Aymeri's (which were free gifts), this one of Mr. Blethen's, and Endicott's Garden.

MR. FEARON said he thought they ought seriously to consider before they refused either of the free gifts; and unless there were strong objections to them on sanitary or other valid grounds, they ought to accept either the one or the other, which would leave them with the Endicott site still in their possession, to be sold or retained as might seem best. He was afraid it would be very difficult for them to finance for Mr. Blethen's site, so he thought it would be very desirable first to obtain the opinions of the medical men regarding Père Aymeri's and Mr. Hanbury's sites.

Père AYMERI here stated, that it would be impossible for him to keep his offer open longer, as arrangements had already been made to build Chinese houses on the land, and they could not be longer deferred. He noted some of the objections to his site, which were for their consideration, viz., the near neighbourhood of the French Gas Works and the slaughter houses, the probability of Chinese houses being built all round, and a lot of low land in close proximity. He would, however, stretch a point, and give them till to-morrow for a final answer.

A general conversation here ensued, the result of which was that Mr. Blethen's site being in their opinion by far the best, they should see if Mr. Blethen could not be induced to let them have it for a less rate, and also in the meantime get the opinions of the medical men about both Père Aymeri's and Mr. Hanbury's sites. The funds they would have in hand would be, say, Tls. 15,500; and Père Aymeri intimated that he would be willing to lend them Tls. 2,000, without interest, to be repaid in a reasonable time.

MR. FEARON then proposed, and Père AYMERI seconded, the following resolution, which was carried unanimously, viz:—

That the Chairman be authorised to settle with Mr. C. P. Blethen for the purchase of his land, and of a new hospital to be built thereon on the basis of Mr. Groom's plan (said plan being subject to such modification in detail as may be desired by the Trustees), for a sum not exceeding Tls. 27,000, everything inclusive and ready for occupation; Mr. Blethen to take over the Endicott site in part payment, at a valuation of Tls. 9,000, and to leave part of the purchase money, not exceeding Tls. 4,000, on mortgage at 8% per annum, if the Trustees so desire.

THE CHAIRMAN promised to obtain the opinions of as many of the medical men, as he could in so short a time, regarding the advantages and disadvantages of the above sites.

The meeting then closed, agreeing to meet next day to hear the result of the Chairman's interviews with Mr. Blethen and the Doctors.

11 a.m., 11th April, 1876.

THE CHAIRMAN informed the Trustees present that he had seen Drs. Jamieson, Henderson and Johnston, (Dr. Little being absent from Shanghai, he had been unable to communicate with him), and had detailed to them the various sites offered. They seemed to be all satisfied with Mr.

Blethen's site and with the proposed plan of the Hospital to be built there; but with regard to both Père Aymeri's and Mr. Hanbury's sites they had strong objections on sanitary grounds, and one of them went so far as to say that if they could not secure Mr. Blethen's, he should unhesitatingly prefer Endicott's Garden to either of the free gifts. They were all of the opinion that the ground was too low and the neighbourhood unhealthy; moreover, neither had the advantage of water frontage, which they seemed to think very necessary, and so far especially as Père Aymeri's site was concerned, the neighbourhood of the gas-works and slaughter houses were fatal objections; it would have all the hot air from the city, and if Chinese houses were to spring up all round, they must detract very much from the healthiness of the hospital. He had also seen Mr. Blethen that morning, and was sorry to inform them that he declined to reduce his offer by more than Tls. 1,000. Thus making it Tls. 28,500. This was positively his lowest offer, and at this figure he assured him (the Chairman) he lost money. Mr. Blethen also said he should be unable to leave any of the purchase money on mortgage. Therefore, it seemed to him they had no choice but between Mr. Blethen's site and Endicott's Garden. In Mr. Blethen's plans there was no provision for a small-pox ward, but he believed that ground either behind or at the side could easily be rented for this purpose. He would try and put before them in as succinct a manner as possible, what seemed to him the *pros* and *cons.* of these two sites. Regarding Endicott's Garden site, one of the Doctors had informed him, to begin with, that it would take Tls. 1,000 to raise it properly; then, a new Hospital could not be built and in a fit state for patients to inhabit under at least 10 months; and, further, after it was built, the state of the ground, being newly raised, would render it unhealthy for invalids for a very considerable time. During these 10 or 12 months, they would have to go on paying a rental of Tls. 2,500 per annum, could they remain in their present premises. On account of the distance, it would be necessary to have a resident Physician, and they would have to provide him with separate accommodation; and in the plans handed them by the late Trustees, no provision was made in their estimates for either this or a small-pox ward. According to their plans, the estimate for building, including architect's commission, &c., was.....Tls. 17,500
Cost of raising 1,000
Rent of last 6 months, say 1,200
Tls.... 19,700

besides Physician's residence and small-pox wards in addition. Regarding Mr. Blethen's site, he offered to sell them the land and build a hospital thereon for them, on the basis of the plan before them, but modified as they might desire, for Tls. 28,500.
and to take over in part payment Endicott's Garden, at a valuation of Tls. 9,000

Leaving to be provided by the Trustees, a balance of Tls. 19,500

To provide this balance, they had
Grant from General Council Tls. 5,000
" French " 2,500
Loan of Bazaar Fund 6,000
Cash in hand, say 2,000
Tls. 15,500

Leaving a deficit of Tls. 4,000
And, say, for new furniture, " 1,000

Tls. 5,000

Mr. Blethen says he will have the new Hospital ready and fit to be inhabited in four to six months' time. There would thus be a saving of about Tls. 1,200 in rent. They would have the advantage of an old site already raised, and, therefore, much more healthy for building upon than newly raised land, and in position probably the most convenient they could possibly find in the whole Settlement, having access by water, well bounded and within easy distance. Père Aymeri kindly offered them the loan of Tls. 2,000, without interest, for a reasonable time. The only question regarding this site in his (the Chairman's) mind was, could they raise the remaining Tls. 3,000? Mr. Blethen, he might add, would require Tls. 10,000 paid down.

A general conversation then ensued, in which the other Trustees entirely concurred about the advisability of agreeing to Mr. Blethen's terms, and taking the risk of raising the balance of the money by the time it was wanted. It was thought that further small appropriations of funds from the two Municipalities might reasonably be hoped for. The opinions of the medical men having been so adverse to the sites offered both by Mr. Hanbury and Père Aymeri, the Trustees felt it was impossible for them to accept them, but wished to notify their thanks to those gentlemen for their generous offers and for the great interest they took in the affairs of the Hospital; and the Secretary was accordingly desired to communicate the same to Messrs. Iveson & Co., and Père Aymeri, also to write to the Jesuit Fathers, thanking them for the liberal terms on which they offered their ground, viz., the Canton Garden for Tls. 12,000, repayable without interest in six years.

The following resolutions were therefore proposed and carried unanimously, viz:—

Proposed by Mr. MEDHURST, and seconded by M. GODEAUX—

That, whereas, it is the opinion of the Trustees, that there are such strong objections from a sanitary and other points of view, to the sites offered to them as gifts, as to outweigh the advantage of obtaining either of them without cost, the Secretary be requested to write to the Rev. Père Aymeri and to Messrs. Iveson & Co., declining with thanks their generous proposal, and that a similar letter be addressed to the Jesuit Fathers declining their proposal.

Proposed by Mr. BELL, and seconded by Mr. FEARON—

That Mr. C. P. Blethen's offer to sell his land, and a new Hospital to be built thereon, to the Trustees for Tls. 28,500, he taking over the Endicott Garden site in part payment at a valuation of Tls. 9,000, be accepted; on the understanding that the plan of the Hospital shall be based on the draft already furnished by Mr. Blethen, but may be modified to meet the requirements of the Trustees. Terms of payment and other details, to be arranged hereafter by mutual agreement.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought that the minutes of this meeting should be published, so that the public should learn the grounds which had led the Trustees to select this new site and incur an additional expenditure, which was unanimously agreed to.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING.

At the general meeting of the Council, held in the Council Room, Shanghai, 17, Kiangee Road, on Wednesday, the 19th April, 1876, at 9 o'clock a.m.,

Present:—Messrs. A. A. Krauss (in the Chair), Geo. J. W. Cowie, J. Hart, J. F. Holliday, J. Bell Irving, E. Iveson, T. Olyphant, C. W. Siegfried and the Secretary.

The Summons calling the meeting is taken as read.

The Minutes of the previous meeting are read, confirmed, and signed by the Chairman and Secretary, the seal of the Municipality affixed thereto, and passed for publication.

The Cash Statement, for week ending 14th April, is passed round for inspection.

Cheques for sundry payments are signed. Lengthening of Butts.—An expenditure of Tls. 160 is authorized, for lengthening the Rifle Butts 60 feet.

The opening of the Butts for Rifle practice, to be deferred till the work is completed.

Volunteer Band—Expenses.—The recommendation of the Defence Committee, that the expenses of the Band be met out of money voted by the Ratepayers for the maintenance of the Volunteers, is adopted. Broadway Drain—Report from Acting Surveyor on progress made during the week, is considered.

Netherlands Consulate-General.—Letter from Mr. F. E. Heyden is read, informing the Council that he had been appointed to act as Consul-General for the Netherlands in China, during the temporary absence of the Hon. J. H. Ferguson.

Reports from the various Committees to 31st March, are here read, considered, and approved.

ADMINISTRATION MUNICIPALE DE LA CONCESSION FRANCAISE.

Résumé des délibérations du Conseil.

Séance du 12 Avril, 1876, sous la présidence de M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présents:—M. M. E. Leroy, E. Bade, F. D. Hitch, W. Lang, H. Maignan, E. Millot, E. W. Rice, H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

Approbation des propositions émises par le Comité de Travaux et de la Police, relatives à.

La demande à faire à M. le Consul-Général de France, de ne pas remplacer deux agents étrangers dans la Garde, et de suppléer à ces deux vacances par l'adjonction de quatre agents Chinois à l'effectif actuel.

L'exécution du pavage en briques sur champ de la rue du Weikwé et des quais du Yang-king-pang, quand toutefois, pour ce qui concerne ces derniers le travail en jarres cassées qui vient et y être exécuté récemment sera mis hors de service.

La largeur à donner aux trottoirs de la rue du Consulat, qui est portée, où cela sera praticable, de 5 pieds à 6 pieds en ayant soin de maintenir la voie carrossable, dans tout le parcours de la rue, à une largeur uniforme de 28 pieds.

La prise en considération d'un projet de remaniement de la Garde qui est renvoyé à la discussion du Conseil.

L'adoption d'une nouvelle tenue pour les agents Chinois de la Garde, et la commande des matières nécessaires à la confection de cette tenue.

L'établissement de bordures et rigoles de trottoirs dans la partie de la rue Hué, comprise entre la rue du Consulat et le quai de la Brèche.

La reconstruction des parois des puits d'arrosage du jardin municipal, et à l'étude à faire sur l'emplacement, en dehors du jardin, où pourrait être placé un réservoir pour alimenter les pompes.

Et enfin, la prescription d'étudier les lignes à adopter pour opérer le raccordement du quai du Whampo, avec le quai de France et de la rue Montauban avec Zeechuen Road.

Après examen d'un projet de remaniement de la Garde, le Président est prié de faire connaître à M. le Consul-Général les bases d'après lesquelles l'Administration pense qu'on devrait y procéder.

Communication d'une lettre de M. le Consul Heyden, informant le Président qu'il a été chargé de gérer le Consulat-Général de Hollande pendant l'absence de M. Ferguson.

M. Lester n'acceptant pas l'indemnité affectée par le Conseil pour la portion de

terrain cédée par M. J. J. Keswick, pour l'élargissement du quai de la Pagode, le Conseil revient à sa première proposition d'en référer à deux arbitres.

Le Conseil propose d'allouer la somme de Taëls 100 à M. Cowie, comme compensation de deux parcelles de terrain, requises de la propriété de M. Turner, pour l'élargissement du quai du Yang-king-pang, plus une indemnité de Taëls 26.50 pour la reconstruction d'un mur qui est élevé sur l'une d'elles. Il accorde à M. Lina la somme de Taëls 20, réclusee par lui pour l'élargissement de la rue du Moulin.

Examen et approbation des rapports des chefs de service.

Examen et approbation du rapport de l'Inspecteur des marchés.

Séance du 18 Avril, 1876, sous la présidence M. A. Voisin. Conseillers présidents:—M.M. E. Bade, W. Lang, H. Maignan, E. Millot, H. Sayn, Secrétaire.

M.M. Leroy et Hitch, se sont fait excuser de ne pouvoir assister à la séance. M. Rice, non présent.

Approbation du contrat passé avec M. Legras, engagé pour remplir les fonctions d'Ingénieur.

Lecture d'une lettre du Chief Engineer du Shanghai Fire Department, au sujet d'un augmentation de de matériel nécessaire au bon fonctionnement de la pompe No. 6. Le Secrétaire est chargé de s'enquérir de la dépense qu'entraînerait l'acquisition de ce matériel, et, une fois fixé à cet égard, le Conseil se réserve de prendre la décision qui lui paraîtra convenable.

Prescriptions relatives à l'engagement d'un jardinier-portier et aux détails de son service.

Examen et approbations des rapports des chefs de service.

Amusements.

THE FIFTY-FIRST PERFORMANCE OF THE A.D.C. AT THE LYCEUM.

The Amateurs had a difficult task last Wednesday evening, as they had to perform under their old conditions immediately after acting with the assistance of a corps of accomplished ladies. The audience went with a very high standard of excellence fresh in their minds, and therefore were predisposed to be unusually severe and critical. We are not paying our old friends any fulsome compliment, when we say that they acquitted themselves very creditably, and that the two pieces selected, "The Post-Boy" and "Cox and Box" were both successful.

Before the curtain rose, Mr. Smallweed came forward, and spoke the following prologue:—

Friends, ere the curtain rises to disclose
Joe Spurr's trials, and Maria's woes,
I'll claim your kind indulgence for a space,
And say a short preliminary grace.
For what we have received,—in cash or credit,
Accept our gratitude—'twassorely needed:—
Your help has raised the actor's drooping spirits,
And lightened both his debts and his demerits:
For what we may receive, your praise or blame,
Thanks, gentle Critics, thank you all the same!
The one will cheer, the other make us better—
In either case the A.D.C.'s your debtor.
But of your kindly presence don't denude us,
We want the dollars, though denied the kudos!
Above all, Ladies, above all to you,
The homage of our grateful hearts is due;
In the Club's darkest hour, when hope had fled,
And trouble bowed the managerial head;
(His is no bed of roses, I assure ye,
"Trials" we've had, domestic, and "by jury")

The season's programme only half completed,
Each nascent plan but formed to be defeated;
Our ranks fast thinning,—worst of all mischances,—

Wainwright in quarantine, the tuneful Francis,
Will Honeycomb and Giovannelli leaving,
On all sides Fate her gloomy meshes weaving:
Then you, fair ministrants of light and gladness,
Dispersed the clouds, and changed to joy our sadness;
From out the depths of black despondency
Evoked our most triumphant Jubilee!
Henceforth Lyceum's annals are renowned,
Henceforth this stage is consecrated ground.
While life remains, and memory is green,
Fancy shall love to dwell upon that scene,
Where Virtue, Youth, and Beauty went to "School,"

Under the graceful Sutcliffe's gentle rule,
Here the chaste matron chid her Theodore;
There the coy Bella told her fairy lore;
'Twas here for Bella lovesick Beaufoy sighed,
And in the fitful moonlight won his bride;
Here, too, bewitching Naomi! e'en yet I see thee!—arch enchantress and coquette,
Apple in hand, and mischief in thine eyes,
Transporting Jack, and us, to Paradise.

Fond Retrospect! My thoughts are anchored fast
In this fair haven of the blissful past:
But stay—a Q.C. whispers, "No avail
To plead you're anchored, you are under sail!"

I stand rebuked, and haste to fly the glamour
Of goddesses, ere I provoke the clamour
Of you, impatient gods! The prompter knocks:
Ring up the "Post-boy," and then "Cox and Box."

When the applause consequent upon the above, had subsided, the bell rang for the "Post-Boy," which is a drama belonging to the rather numerous class which includes "The Porter's Knot," the "Chimney Corner," "Old Phil's Birthday," &c., &c. The hero is what is technically called a Robson part, and on this character the success or failure of the piece depends. We must congratulate Mr. Thorne on having made Joe Spurr a living, breathing figure, fresh from the stable. Ostade's boors were not truer to Dutch life, Faed's peasants are not truer to the Highlands, than Joe Spurr was to the old coaching days of England. He was a real Post-Boy, not a theatrical Post-Boy. The odd disjointed chat, the peculiarities of gesture and speech, the exhibition of simple and genuine feeling, and the queer fragments of humour, were copied with an exactness and finish that left nothing to be desired. The straws from the stable seemed to hang about the veteran's talk. If we must single out any points for praise, we would specify the bold denunciation of Sir John Bingley, the luncheon scene with Fubbs, and the final avowal not to intrude his unwelcome homeliness in the houses of his aristocratic connections. Put from first to last, the part was a study, and must rank amongst the most triumphant bits of character-acting ever seen in China. The audience (Shanghai audiences always do appreciate realism) gave the actor the heartiest ovation we have ever known to be bestowed on an amateur. He received the honour of a call in the middle of a scene, a tribute of approbation never (if we recollect rightly) bestowed on Spurgeon, Griffin, Crowquill, Elephant, or the heroes of the boasted golden days of the drama.

The debutante, Miss Cauliflower, who, interpreted "Maria's woes," looked exceedingly pretty, specially in the second act, where she was becomingly dressed, and gave very high promise of excellence. She will soon gain confidence, and we prophesy, when this needful gift is acquired, that she will be an ornament to the stage. Miss Brisaf who doubled the part of Lucet and Miss Wharton, was more successful in the first part than in the second. Her Miss Wharton was far too pronounced

and boisterous. Sir John Bingley was entrusted to Mr. Doolittle, who lacked the requisite sternness; and the unattractive, ungrateful part of the son was taken by Mr. Montessor. This actor has too great a fondness for stiff attitudes, and is apt to be wooden and monotonous, but nothing could have interested the audience in the character, and it is perhaps rather more creditable to fail in such a part than to succeed. The Irish servant, Charley Fubbs, who reappears like Tom Tact, in "Time tries all," in the guise of a caricatured Frenchman, was happier than we expected, as Mr. Hawk has not yet tried low comedy, and we distrusted his powers in that line.

The second piece was the charming operetta "Cox and Box," with the original Shanghai cast. It was played throughout with abounding spirit and energy, and was as heartily enjoyed by the audience as on its first production. The three performers, Messrs. Francis, Giovannelli and Will Honeycomb—all of whom, alas! are going to leave us in a few weeks—acted as well as ever. The "Rataplan, Rataplan," of Bouncer, was warmly applauded, the "Hush a-bye Bacon" was capitally sung, and the tragico-comical scena by Box, beginning:

"Listen! I solemnly walked to the cliff,
And singing a sort of a dulcet dirge,"

seemed to us a finished and telling exhibition of dramatic and vocal power. We thank Mr. Fentum for his steady and conscientious services in accompanying the operetta, and the amateur orchestra for their well-selected music between the acts. Altogether, the A.D.C. have to score another successful season, and the community expressed in no hesitating tones their warm appreciation of their continuous efforts to give us entertainments of a high class.

Miscellaneous.

"COMING EVENTS CAST THEIR SHADOWS BEFORE."

For some time past, the Viceroy at Nanking has been sitting hearing the case of Chen Kwoh-jui and Chang Chi-lin, and before he left Nanking, we are informed, issued a decision confirming that of his predecessor in office. Officially, therefore, Chen Kwoh-jui is a free man, though, as he yet seems to be kept in durance vile, there is no knowing what may be the end of his career;—whether he will be sent, as reported, an exile to the Amoor, or whether he has not established so dire a fear amongst the mandarins, that he will be allowed further rope to procure his own destruction. It was generally supposed that, when Shen Pau-chén had determined on rehearing his case, that the pitcher having gone once too often to the well, the career of the turbulent chief was well nigh closed; and that as the former acting Viceroy had evidently allowed himself to be actuated by feelings hostile to Chang Chi-lin, the rehearing of the case would result in the tables being turned on Chen Kwoh-jui. This, however, so far does not seem to be the case; and the present Viceroy's decision confirms the guilt of Chang Chi-lin, and adds another to the many instances which go to prove the utter uselessness of Chinese appeals. Chang Chi-lin, we learn, has been sentenced to death by strangulation, but as in China the property of a criminal is not subject to confiscation, and as Chang Chi-lin is said to be enormously rich, it may happen that his sycee may still preserve his life. There is something very peculiar about the vigour with which the Chinese punish in some cases, and the indifference they display in others. The law is seldom put in force from considerations regarding

abstract justice. For once that it is so enforced, in a dozen the mandarins are influenced by other motives, or actuated by the clamour of relations or the cupidity of their underlings. There are scores, possibly hundreds, of cases of murder or manslaughter committed every year, without being enquired into, although the mandarins are perfectly cognisant of them. Either the relations of the deceased are apathetic and make no complaint, or the guilty person is too mean for the harpies of the Yamén to interfere. But should he, as in the case of Chang, be a man of wealth, the vultures which swoop on the fallen carcass are not more eager or more numerous than those who hurry to the support of outraged justice. Some strange excitement seems to be felt at the present moment, and if all we hear from the north-western frontier be true, there seems abundant cause for uneasiness amongst the ruling classes. From the provincial capital, strange tales have been in circulation, the origin of which it is difficult to comprehend. Stories have been current for some time of the singular pastime of cutting off tails, to which the peculiarly apathetic character of the people lend an importance we should otherwise fail to place on them. Whilst walking in the streets or sitting in tea-houses, people are said to have been seized by unseen hands and deprived of their queues. At first, the circumstances were so peculiar as to lead to the phenomenon being attributed to supernatural influences. In succession, the blame became attached to spirits, missionaries, and the votaries of the Peh-lian Kiason, or secret society of the white lily. Many were the devices adopted to ward off the evil influences, and people used magic incantation to preserve their caudal appendages, or, in dread of the results, shaved them off completely. Others took the more practical precaution of binding their queues round their heads, or contrary to the ordinary law of nature passing them in front of their faces and holding them in their hands. In other countries, we should probably attribute the recurrence of the phenomena to the larkishness of a Theodore Hook, or some other equally potent practical joker. Not so in China, where the people are too indolent to go to the trouble of manufacturing such occasions of amusement. The mandarins well know that it is characteristic of their countrymen to be sparing in their expenditure of energy, and to be content when they have got a bed and a bellyfull. Whether, then, the cry be that a missionary has boiled a baby, or a merchant has hashed up a child to make opium, the mandarin never falls into the mistake of attributing the rumour to frolic. There being, however, no missionary and no devil in this matter of the tails, to what are we to attribute the excitement, which is certainly real? Beware, ye mice, beware! for the owl is not asleep, because there is no toll-tale rustle 'mong' his plumes. Soft footsteps are treading on yours, foot for foot; and keen eyes are peering, unseen, into yours; for your chiefs have seen the paper man that was found on the 'Tou Mien-kiaou! They say it was red as blood, that its one hand grasped a sword, the other a pair of shears—the shears to lop off the badge of China's subjection; the sword to strike down him who imposed it. Now, may we not ask why Chen Kwoh-jui, the wash-buckler, is acquitted; and why, being acquitted, the walls of the Viceroy's yamén are nightly placarded with strange proclamations, the which the mandarins anxiously pull down at early dawn, e'er their riddles have met the eyes of the common people? Dynasties have had their day; and whispers are again prevalent that the Ta-tsing has had its, and is near its end. It would be idle to suppose that a man like Chen Kwoh-jui could upset it; but might he not be the convenient tool, the moulder of the

occasion for some more subtle spirit to make use of? No high officer of the Empire would ever think of tripping up his master, and boldly vaulting into the Dragon seat, as one of our crown-seekers might do. Such a proceeding would not become the genius of the Chinese, which delights in finessing. Besides, the idea of paternal government has strong root in China, and he who seeks to be the chosen one, must seek to make the people believe that the dispensation of heaven has departed, and that he only comes to the throne to relieve the universal disorder. Such are some of the questions which arise in the China of the present. Does no one really use Chen Kwoh-jui? Under whose protection does he live, for he has oftener forfeited his life than is customary in this country of cheap death warrants. Whatever is the case, we seem on the eve of important events. From no quarter do reassuring accounts reach us; but whether the present state of uncertainty will result in an explosion, or pass off in harmless smoke, is at the moment beyond human knowledge.

A MEMORIAL ASCRIBED TO THE LITERARY CHANCELLOR OF SZECHUEN.

Your servant Chang Chih-t'ung presents this memorial on his knees.

Your servant has always heard that Chinese and barbarians cannot exist in the same spot, and that no part of your Majesty's realm can properly be shared with others. He, therefore, begs the Government will not forget its former injuries, and that the disgrace inflicted by feudatories may be washed out. We must assent to the will of heaven above, and conform to the wishes of men on earth below. The Government should assert the majesty of its warlike might, in order to drive away the hordes of fierce and cruel men. We know that the dispositions of these outer barbarians are as ravenous as those of wolves. They manufacture opium, which they exchange for our useful silver and gold, that they may fill up their bottomless abysses with it. This opium drives away all feeling of shame among the black-haired race, and ruins the energies of our soldiers and their officers.

The late Emperor, well knowing the malignity and wickedness of foreigners, and furious and terribly indignant thereat, ordered his high military officials to go to the River [the Pearl River.] They burnt the opium, and detained the ships of the barbarians. There was good reason for the employment of this military force. Who was not delighted, or who failed to express his admiration. However, Chi-shan (Keshen) proved to be a man of no resource, and he was mad enough to enter into an armistice with them, to the injury and disgrace of the military commanders; on his own responsibility he cut off a slice of territory, and sold the commanding position of Hushan [Tiger Island] which formed a natural protection, and thus these robbers became outrageous. Their demands became more and more insatiable. Again and again they brought out their murderous and savage soldiery. They took Hongkong, and laid hands on Nanking. They enticed a general there, and had him killed before them as they feasted. They pounced upon a high commissioner [Yeh Ming-ch'eng], and carried him off to a foreign country. Their crimes and offences are notorious. The case is one that cannot be expiated even by death.

Notwithstanding this, the late Emperor made a treaty of peace with them, and consented to their proposals for commercial intercourse, which shews the vast benevolence of our great Government. Your servant, turning to former memorials on these subjects, sighs to think of the mistakes which were committed in that one moment.

After this the flame of rebellion [lit., smoke and miasma] sprang up on all sides in China, and the barbarians on this entertained yet viler schemes than before. They fomented the strife and turned their backs on the treaties. They came to a sea-port, [Tientsin] and we turned our sailors into fighting men; but the barbarians, once more lucky beyond their deserts, crossed by land. Fortunately, we had Tseng-ko-lin-hsin, who was thoroughly acquainted with strategy, and who advanced boldly. He devised plans for driving them back to their own country. He placed good soldiers in ambush, to protect the stations on the coast. If we could have had the luck to have once met in arms, success must have followed, and the barbarians would have lost courage. Who could have foreseen that two camps would have caught fire, and that our troops would have been routed? The barbarians thereupon swarmed in everywhere, like moths or ants, and crept out here and there like so many frogs and insects. They suddenly forced their way past our stations, and invaded our sacred demesnes; they burnt our pleasure gardens, and spied out our cities and country places. The (very) rivers and hills changed colour. The Imperial Chariot was forced to leave. The light of the stars paled. The Emperor retreated on his charger. This surely is an injury which will not admit of our both existing under the same skies. The Emperor and his Ministers cannot forget this in a moment.

Now, again, the barbarians want people to believe in them, and to make further compacts, that they may entice persons into their depraved faith. They set up stations and erect buildings, in which they place handsome platforms [altars or pulpits], and make use of magic arts to entrap men. An awe-inspiring government submits to a barbarous nation. Your servant grieves day and night thinking over the vast internal injury to his country, which must mainly be caused by such ignorant and foolish persons. As good luck would have it, they have lately been guilty of the crime of kidnapping men, and of the sin of injuring the people. The awful indignation of heaven has been excited, and the people disturbed, so that they have pulled down the churches and driven away their congregations.

If the Government will take advantage of this opportunity, while the hearts of the people are inflamed, they should send official circulars in all directions, informing everyone of the evil propensities [of foreigners], that the indignation of all may be aroused, and that those who have been deluded may be overawed. Let the High Provincial Authorities be instructed to burn all foreign churches, and lead on the people to exterminate this wicked brood. This would have the effect on the one hand, of removing the subjects of the two late Emperors' hatred, and on the other of comforting the minds of the populace. There is no doubt that this question affects our prosperity or ruin. We must not therefore miss the opportunity.

If, on the other hand, the officials are stupid enough to unite in making amicable advances, so that the Government gives its assent, and nobody ventures to say a word about fighting, then it will follow that the people of China are to blame, and the officials will have the duty of punishing them. Those who give way to the barbarians will then be meritorious officers, and those who resist and oppose them will all be considered a traitorous set, to the destruction of the good reputation of China, and to the furtherance of the malicious designs of these veritable birds and beasts. Your servant fears that the wicked men will (thus) grow more and more numerous every day, and that honest ministers will all be driven away. This will not only

compel the people to join depraved sects, but will be tantamount to taking the Imperial revenues and letting barbarians use them for the support of their religious leaders, which would indeed be a pitiable proceeding.

Your servant has been a student ever since his queue was first plaited, and although he is not deeply read, he would request that the following examples of evil resulting from conceding treaties of peace may be laid before the Government:—

In the time of Yüan Ti, of the Han dynasty (B.C. 48), the Hsiung-nu invaded and ravaged the country. The Government just at that time had plenty of soldiers and a sufficiency of provisions. Still they would not heed the good counsels of Chao Chien; but listened to the evil designs of Wen Hsiang, and, to begin with, gave the Emperor's daughter, Shou Yang, in marriage to the invader, and after that the Emperor's concubine Wang Chiang went over to the enemy; but nevertheless, after the lapse of a few years, the Capital was once more plundered by him.

In the time of the Emperors Huei Taung and Chin Taung, of the Sung dynasty (A.D. 1101-1126), the inhabitants of Chin invaded and ravaged the country. The Government at that time had plenty of soldiers and quantities of officers, nevertheless they would not listen to the good advice of Yo Fei, but yielded to the evil designs of Chin Kuei, and in the first place gave pearls and precious stones to sue for peace, and afterwards presented the enemy with land and property to keep him quiet. But before many years had elapsed, the Emperor wanted a piece of ground left to him, and he could not get it. Again, among the barbarous countries beyond sea, there is Cochin-China to the North and Laos to the South. The former made a treaty, and became a dependent state; the latter would make no treaty, and remains independent. A thorough examination of all ancient instances shews them to be all of the same pattern; why should not our Government take warning by them?

There exist at present seven reasons why we should decide on going to war:—

1.—Foreigners can only fight with success in the summer. We can fight during any of the four seasons, so we have the weather on our side.

2.—They can only fight with success at sea. We can defend the land. The land therefore is an element on which we can rely.

3.—They excite the anger of the people. We satisfy the people's minds. We can reckon on the goodwill of the people.

4.—Besides, they live in an outside state. We live in the Central nation. Are we not a match for them in numbers?

5.—They believe in Jesus, we in Confucius and Mencius. These faiths differ as truth and falsehood.

6.—They have to find rations. We have our supply of provisions. This makes all the difference between strength and weakness.

7.—They come from a long way off, and suffer accordingly from many infirmities. We are safe at home, and so are not afflicted at all, and can therefore wait till they are exhausted.

Their plans are drawn up jointly by the two countries [England and France]. Our soldiers and people form one family. United we may count on victory. Reason demands we should go to war; circumstances admit of our so doing. Consider these seven reasons; there is not a single woman or child who cannot appreciate them.

Now the Ministers, whom we have, are men full of learning, and our literates have a universal reputation as clear-minded scholars; should they all give in a unanimous vote for peace, your servant, alas! can guess the reason. It is that they, knowing the tender age of Your Majesty, and

the feeble and embarrassed state in which the soldiers and people are, and acquainted with the overbearing fierceness of our enemies, would preserve themselves and their families in peace and quietness; and so in their carelessness, they would pass their days in a security to which they have no right. They say, too, "wait a while for a better opportunity later on," not knowing that every day on which a concession is made to enemies brings trouble on many future generations. Unless something is done at once, our country's vital strength [lit., blood and breath] will become more and more exhausted every day, while their powers of mischief [lit., teeth and claws] will increase in the same ratio. When the roots of a tree have spread deep into the ground, how can one shake it?

Your servant would pray the Government and the Ministers of State, to exert their energies and at once instruct [the inhabitants of all] the villages, that each village is to take care of its important posts, and at the same time to order that the batteries on the sea are to be repaired, to prevent the barbarians' ships passing. We shall then see signs of strength like teams of horses, and marks of power like hills and rivers. The foolish and idle classes will be exterminated, and the sun and moon once more shine in their glory. Magical and strange practices will be done away with, and disgrace and meanness will be swept out of heaven and earth. The mind of heaven will thus be pacified, and the desires of men satisfied. The grievances endured by two Empresses will be removed, and the disgrace to two reigns will be wiped away. The country, and His Majesty's Government will alike enjoy prosperity.

Your Minister has hereby committed the fault of overstepping [the duties of] his office. But even though he should be punished for so doing, he will not complain.

Translated by

CLEMENT F. R. ALLEN.

THE CHINA TEA TRADE.

The following extracts, from the circular of a firm of London tea-brokers, may at this season be of interest to many of our readers. The circular in question has probably been received by many of those interested in the Tea trade, but its sensible appreciation of the state of that trade renders it deserving of being more generally known:—

"We have again in reviewing the tea season of 1875-76, clear, unmistakable evidence of the impolicy of high cost in China; and, if the business is to be carried on with a view to a fair trading profit, shippers must give heed to facts calling for a lower standard of cost, as there can be no doubt that until such standard is realized, the result will continue to be as in 1875-76, viz., dissatisfaction and more or less loss as regards most of the shipments of the season.

"It is said on all sides, that the bulk of the export from China must be shipped in the first four or five months, and very largely in the first three; and we suppose this must be accepted as the probable future course of the trade. Under such circumstances, the importer is entirely at the mercy of the consumer, who is represented by the wholesale buyer, and the policy of the latter is the reverse of that in China. As supplies rapidly accumulate in London, he buys from hand-to-mouth, or lowers his offers to a point at which he feels that his purchase has the element of safety, and it seems strange that such an evidently wise course is not pursued in China. It is only to be accounted for upon one supposition, viz., that orders and credit facilities are sent out at the commencement of the season upon such an extensive scale, that if the first crop of Congou were twice or even three times as large as it is, there would be sufficient 'sterling' to pay for, and orders to ship, the teas. The telegraph should bring London sufficiently near to producing markets to enable those who are here to exercise a decided and controlling influence in purchases of the first crop, and this would go

far to bring prices in China to a more desirable level. It is of no use saying to the buyer here, when the market is overweighted in the early months, 'results are unsatisfactory, and the export from China will not be more than equal to the demand, or scarcely so much.' He ignores such calculations, and looks only to what is before him, while the importer must accept his offers or hold a high cost article against all the uncertainties of the future. We have said that cost, at the opening in China, is, in all probability, made unduly high by the excess of orders and credits available for the first crop; but is there any reason why the attention of importers should be so decidedly turned to the first crop of China Congous to the exclusion of considerations of cost so calculated to affect the range of prices throughout the season? We think that the experience of the past season has only tended to confirm the view so often expressed in the reviews of the past few seasons, viz., that with a large and rapidly growing supply of Indian Tea, the times when high prices could be safely paid for first crop China Congous, to be used for home consumption, have passed away; and there is no apparent reason why they should ever return.

"We venture an opinion, without, however, sufficient data to give it more value than as an opinion, that we are this year beginning to feel the effects of the increased area placed under tea cultivation in India a few years back; the sudden jump in production leading us to the belief that the present is the first year of picking a large area of new plantations. If this presumption is correct, the rate of increase in the next few years may not be so large as that for 1875/76 over 1874/75. It is a noticeable feature, that of 7,800,000 lbs. increased deliveries in the year ending 31st December, 1875, 5,500,000 lbs. was Indian Tea.

Receipts in London from China.

	1873-74.	1874-75.	1875-76.
July Steamers	8,367,652	14,669,279	30,701,407
August Do.	20,992,385	27,196,760	2,079,966
September.. Do.	20,839,635	13,951,697	20,370,076
October Do.	15,318,955	18,391,964	10,182,672
..... Clippers	3,662,801	4,232,289	2,769,539
November.. Steamers	9,721,691	12,631,677	17,447,727
..... Clippers	6,296,218	3,668,724	3,895,211
December .. Steamers	7,636,137	8,949,590	13,602,414
..... Clippers	9,367,527	8,144,346	2,651,505

101,087,906 106,529,525 123,388,117

It may occur to some, that portions of the foregoing remarks are almost as applicable to other portions of the China trade besides Tea."

Correspondence.

LORD ELGIN AND THE TRANSIT DUES.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—In the letter I addressed you on the 15th inst., and which you did me the favour to publish in your issue of the 20th, I ventured to point out the summary way in which Lord Elgin disposed of the difficulties connected with inland taxation of British merchandise in Japan, by the 16th Article of our treaty with that Empire, which rendered all taxation over and above the tariff rates so clearly illegal, as to preclude any justification of extra duties being levied, if such an attempt were ever made. So satisfactorily was this object attained, that Lord Elgin, writing to Lord Malnesbury, on 31st August, 1858, describes it as "the abolition of transit dues."

The completeness of Lord Elgin's proviso in Japan against grievances similar to those which British commerce has had to suffer in China, makes it all the more regrettable that his Lordship did not frame the 28th Article of the Tientsin Treaty with equal precision; but it would be very questionable reasoning to infer that the omission to do so, when treating with China, implied Lord Elgin's having viewed the case of China as exceptional, and that it was to be treated on different principles.

As I observed in my letter above referred to, Lord Elgin concluded the Japan treaty exactly two months after signing that of Tientsin. Whether his remembrance of what he had stipulated for in his convention with China, stimulated him to make a

clearer proviso with Japan, owing to the insufficiency in the form of his Tientsin Article; or whether some other reason prompted him to settle the question of transit dues in so much more lucid a manner, after two months' reflection as to the means which were required to do so adequately; the probable conclusion of all this is, that Lord Elgin desired and intended to ensure a similar thorough exemption of British merchandise from all inland taxation beyond a fixed amount, in both China and Japan, considering the short interval that occurred between the signature of the two treaties.

The Article in the Japan Treaty throws a light on what had been Lord Elgin's intentions in framing the 28th Article of the Treaty of Tientsin, for it refers to the same subject of transit dues; and it also gives an insight as to the view he took of the 7th Rule appended to the treaty, which he agreed to on the 8th of November, 1858, or two months and twelve days after concluding the treaty with the Tycoon. With the fresh remembrance of what had been arranged in Japan present to his mind, it can hardly be presumed that he consented so soon afterward to a rule which would place British merchandise clearly and undoubtedly in a worse position than he had left it, when he signed the original treaty, or which would expose it to grievances such as he had just liberated it from only a few months previously in his treaty with a neighbouring Oriental power. When, therefore, it is asserted that the 28th Article of the Tientsin Treaty and Rule 7th appended to it, have left open to question the thorough exemption of British merchandise in China from all taxation beyond a fixed rate, such view of the case should be attributed to some supposed deficient stringency in their wording, rather than to the intentions of Lord Elgin.

It is a singular circumstance, that Lord Elgin's meaning of the transit duty clauses should have been brought into the discussion regarding them. The introduction of such collateral evidence serves, however, to prove that the text of the treaty and the rule, by itself, is not so clearly in favor of the Chinese Government's view of the matter as has been maintained; for otherwise, the testimony of Lord Elgin would not have been appealed to in its support.

As, however, Lord Elgin's authority has been invoked to assist in settling the real meaning of the Treaty articles, it may not perhaps be considered superfluous to examine what view he really took of them.

The principal appeal to Lord Elgin's intentions regarding the transit dues clauses has been made by Sir Thomas Wade, in his memorandum regarding the revision of the Tientsin Treaty, and it demands the first consideration. Sir Thomas Wade, commenting on the complaints made of the non-observance of article 28th of the Tientsin Treaty by the Chinese Government, states as follows:—

"Lord Elgin, I am certain, did not look for more than the protection in transit of certificated goods."

I shall make no remark on this statement at present, beyond pointing out that the meaning here attached by Sir Thomas Wade to the phrase *in transitu*, was not the meaning which Lord Elgin attributed to those words; and at some future time I shall draw attention to the real meaning and application of the words *in transitu* when used in discussing the question of inland taxation.

The only point of Sir Thomas Wade's memorandum appealing to Lord Elgin, which I shall here comment upon, is as follows:—"I remember his Lordship expressly stating, that he did not see his way to the further protection of imports against taxation once they had passed into the hands of a Chinese merchant. They must then, said he, take their chance."

I do not wish for a single moment to call in question the fact that Lord Elgin used the above words to Sir Thomas Wade. Indeed, they seem to me such a natural and accurate word-picture of what Lord Elgin must have thought of his work, that if I had to select language to express what I believe Lord Elgin really felt on the subject, I could not have found a more suitable phrase. I submit, however, that when Lord Elgin's words are judged by his written description of his thoughts on the treaty, and its effect in the special case under consideration, they do not bear the meaning which has been affixed to them in the memorandum.

In a letter to Lord Malmesbury, of 12th July, 1858, he wrote as follows:—"The concessions in it (the treaty) from the Chinese Government are . . . the settlement of the vexed question of the transit dues. This last-mentioned subject presented considerable difficulty. As duties of octroi are levied universally in China on native as well as foreign products, and as canals and roads are kept up at the expense of the Government, it seemed to be unreasonable to require that articles, whether of foreign or native production (1st), by the simple process of passing into the hands of foreigners, should become entitled to the use of canals and roads free; and (2^d) should moreover be relieved altogether from charges to which they would be liable, if the property of natives."

Lord Elgin here distinctly points out two branches of taxation which he had guarded against in the treaty:—

1st.—The dues leviable for the maintenance of canals and roads, over which British goods might pass in the interior of China.

2nd.—The dues to which they would be liable when they become the property of natives, or the very same dues which Sir Thomas Wade refers to, as when the goods had passed into the hands of a Chinese merchant. These two dues, according to Lord Elgin, comprised whatever could be charged under the term of transit duty, for he explained how he had settled the question of transit dues by merely referring to those two classes of taxation. He recognised that those two sorts of charges could not be then formally abolished, as had been suggested to him by British merchants; although he shortly afterwards carried out the suggestion in Japan, by the "abolition of transit dues" there, as already mentioned. He fully explains the difficulty he felt on the subject, in the continuation of the foregoing letter:—

"On the other hand, experience has taught us the inconvenience of leaving the amount of duties payable under the head of transit duties, altogether undetermined. By acquiring for the British subject the right to commute the said duties for the payment of a specific duty, I hope that I have provided for the latter as effectual a guarantee against undue exactions on this head, as can be obtained without an entire subversion of the financial system of China."

Lord Elgin, therefore, in order to avoid this possible entire subversion of the financial system of China (which no doubt had been used as a scarecrow to make him hesitate in his determination), proposed to compromise the question, by commuting the joint amount of the two classes of taxation above mentioned by himself, for the payment of one specific duty, and the 28th article of the treaty was the result of the negotiation. The letter under consideration proceeds to state:—

"The concessions obtained in the treaty from the Chinese Government are not in excess of those which commercial nations are wont freely to grant to each other, but in the eyes of the Chinese Government they amount to a revolution."

It is worth notice, that Lord Elgin, with his habitual moderation, did not shrink

even from this extreme measure of demanding what seemed a revolution, when he felt it was required in order to obtain what he considered right. Such a strong expression, that the commutation of the two classes of taxation amounted to a revolution, was hardly needed if it had been merely intended to relieve the goods from canal and road duties by paying them beforehand according to a fixed tariff; whereas by relieving the goods altogether from the arbitrary charges to which they might become liable when they became "the property of natives," or, as Sir Thomas Wade describes it, when "once they had passed into the hands of a Chinese merchant," it did really effect a revolution, the reality and importance of which is proved by the fact that the Chinese Government has always resisted it, as far as it dare, even to the present time. Lord Elgin seems to have foreseen the objections that have been lately made on the effect of his arrangement about transit dues, by declaring that it would not entail a subversion of the financial system of China; for he pointed out that the Chinese Government had only granted what other nations are wont to grant freely to each other, and that he had provided a fair substitute for what had been surrendered.

No wonder, then, that Lord Elgin considered the Tientsin Treaty to be an effectual guarantee against any inland taxation on British merchandise, beyond the amount for which all of it has been commuted. He could not have done more than this, except he had assumed the Government of China.

His statement to Sir Thomas Wade, that after such arrangements he did not see his way to the further protection of imports against taxation after they had passed into Chinese hands, must have only meant that he had obtained as effectual a guarantee for this as words could define. Had he been dealing with a truthful and just Government, he would indeed have ensured what he had covenanted for; and he must have felt that, after all he had obtained, nothing more in the shape of treaties could be done for the protection of British merchandise from arbitrary taxation in the interior of China. His Lordship could not have used more befitting words than those referred to by Sir Thomas Wade—"They must then take their chance."

Lord Elgin left British merchandise under theegis of his treaty, and of the protection and providence of the British Government.

When the proper occasion arrives for reckoning up our score with the Chinese Government on this head, I feel convinced that we shall find it has been in "slow, but sure and safe keeping."

MERCATOR.

22nd April.

FORTY YEARS OF FOREIGN INTERCOURSE WITH CHINA.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA HERALD.

SIR,—I have only to-day seen your issue of the 30th ultimo, or should earlier have sought to disabuse your mind of a misconception of my thought, and your readers, of a misrendering of my words, in your notice of my "Introduction to a Retrospect," &c. For, in the first place, you have touched a very sensitive chord in imputing to me the infusion of a national spirit into my said publication; and in the second place, you have given color to the charge by a misrendering of the paragraph you quote from and by omitting to notice the qualification of meaning afforded by the context.

I appeal, therefore, to that boasted "fair play," that accords the opportunity of defence to every one. It is the more needful for me to do so, because it so happens that the third of the series of my Lectures (whereof the one you have thus noticed is the introduction), is about being published; and that

therein I had (already in 1873) distinctly claimed the merit of impartiality and a cosmopolitan spirit;—thus constituting a pledge that I should disdain the impairing of. Moreover, in said third Lecture, while pursuing my narrative in the impartial spirit thus invoked, it became my duty to present a remarkable incident of the preliminaries of peace at Nanking in the light which,—however faint I might be to shun its revelations,—will unerringly guide posterity to the truth in regard to it. I have need, therefore, to bespeak a reciprocal spirit on the part of those whose duty it is to criticise what, in good faith, I publish as the result of conscientious study.

Restricting myself on this occasion to the point you make against me, as in its retaliatory spirit, if not in its form, imputing to me a personal spleen or a national prejudice, I hasten to declare that it was not "as an American" that I wrote, but as a dispassionate observer: Neither did I "compare" the Chinese with the majority of the residents of a certain country on the Eastern "side of the Atlantic;" but, alluding obviously to the extremists of the ruling classes of both Empires, and not to party names in either, I expressed myself in the following measured phraseology as an introduction of what was simply a spontaneous philosophical reflection upon "one of the most curious of anomalies," that is to say, I wrote as follows:—"In point of fact, the conservatives of China are not altogether unlike those of a certain country," &c.

Conceding, nay declaring, that the Chinese conservatives (meaning the extremists, of course) "out-Herod Herod," I merely suggested a plea of measured tolerance for them, drawn from a less extreme conservatism in England; making no invidious comparison, neither condemning either or both. For, in point of fact, I am not a "Radical;" and my motto has long been—"as my friends know"—"Conciliate and Conserve."

I am, Sir, very truly yours,
GIDEON NYE.

Canton, 15th April, 1876.

PERU AND CHINA.

To the Editor of the

DAILY PRESS.

SIR,—It is to be regretted that an erroneous statement, contained in a recent Tientsin correspondence of a Shanghai paper (which letter you reprinted in your issue of the 4th instant), has been the subject of comment in one of your leading articles last Saturday. The Tientsin letter states that "after the exchange of the Ratifications of the Peruvian Treaty, I made certain presents to the Emperor of China, and that, to my great surprise and annoyance, they were accepted as tribute sent by Peru." You comment upon this alleged action of the Chinese Officials as "a new instance of their unparalleled conceit, self-complacency, and vanity, as calculated to keep up old delusions among their own people, and as offensive to a friendly Power."

If I had made any presents to the Emperor of China, and the Peking Government had acted as supposed, your conclusions would be just. I may inform you, however, that the Chinese Government had no opportunity to regard as tribute any presents from Peru, for a very simple reason, namely, that Peru has made no presents to the Emperor of China or to the Chinese Government.

I may add that, had I given them the opportunity, the Chinese Government would not have acted as it is imagined. The important events which during the last few years have taken place or are still developing with an irresistible force in the neighbouring Empire, will make it impossible for China to treat hereafter the Nations of the West as tributary States. In regard to Peru, the last one of the Treaty Powers, the nature of the negotiations and the tone of the discussions in which the two Governments were for more than two years engaged, have decidedly

convinced the Chinese Officials that Peru is no Tributary State. The text of the Treaty itself and the appointment by China of two Envoys Extraordinary to Peru, a Mission entirely similar in its organization to the one to be sent to Great Britain, would alone show it. And it is but just to say that the relations of friendship and good-will now existing between the Chinese and the Peruvian Governments, are as solid and sincere, and those between the Prince of Kung and Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamén and the Representative of Peru, as cordial, as it is possible for them to be between Chinese and Foreigners.

I beg you to insert this letter in your valuable journal, and to send me a copy to transmit to Shanghai for publication in the *North-China Daily News*, the paper in which the Tientsin correspondence originally appeared.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Yours faithfully,

J. F. ELMORE.

Hongkong, April 10th, 1876.

Law Reports.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, April 24th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

Mrs. A. TWIGG v. T. MARSHALL.

This was an action to recover \$92.50 for five and a half months' rent, at \$15 per month, with \$10 for the balance of an account.

Defendant did not appear, and the service of the summons having been proved, and the debt proved, his Honour entered a verdict for the amount claimed, with costs.

TSZU-YUEN-FUNG v. E. A. REYNOLDS.

In this action, the plaintiff claimed \$88.10, due for ground rent, payable to the Chinese Government.

Defendant admitted his indebtedness, and explained that the claim was in reference to the silt along the foreshore of his land at Pootung, being land in excess of that included in the title deeds. He protested against payment on the ground that the amount should be taken as a set-off against an amount he paid in 1865, in accordance with a judgment given by Sir Edmund Hornby, whereby he was compelled to pay Tls. 1,720 for 48 mow of land, in excess of that called for in the title deed. He had it from the United States Consul-General that the foreshore immediately in front of the old Consulate, was filled in and extended riverwards, forming the present site of the American Consulate, Mitsui Bishi, and Jardine's godowns, and for all that extent of land, the land tax was only paid, and they had not been compelled to pay so much a mow for the land, as in his case. As a British subject he claimed the same rights, privileges, and immunities, as the Chinese authorities granted to citizens of other nations, and he read a clause in the British Treaty in support of his claim. The Tls. 1,720 which he had paid under circumstances which the citizens of other nations were entirely free from, should in his opinion, be taken as a set-off against the ground rent for all time to come. Moreover, the Chinese authorities had had his money for years, and the interest on it was more than double the amount of the tax. He did not desire to deny the claim, but he wished to raise the question. He had no objection to pay the amount under protest.

His Honour said the proper course to take was for the defendant to address his Consul, and get him to forward his claim, and if necessary to urge it, before the Chinese authorities.

Defendant said he was suffering under a wrong, because the Tls. 1,720 were paid under protest at the time, and he had since learned that the citizens of other nations did not pay money under such circumstances. In the meantime he was willing to pay any just tax, and he would pay this amount under protest. He asked his Honour to record his protest on the minutes of the proceedings.

His Honour thought it was of very little use, but he would, since the defendant applied, make a note to the effect that the defendant admitted the tax was a just one, but considered he had a larger claim against the Chinese Government.

It was explained that the plaintiff was the proper person to bring the action, and his Honour gave a verdict for the amount claimed, with costs.

April 25th.

WANG-AR-PING v. A. FULLER.

This was an action to recover \$7.48, alleged to be due to the plaintiff for wages.

There was a conflict of evidence as to the amount of the wages per month, and ultimately his Honour gave a verdict for \$2.40, and \$3 costs.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, April 10th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate HSIEH, and W. M. COOPER, Esq., British Assessor.

AMORE v. AKEE.

Embezzlement, Overcharge, and Theft.

The case was heard on the 10th instant: the first charge was in consequence of certain sums of money, in all \$21.70, having been appropriated by defendant, Mr. Amore's boy, instead of being paid to certain tradesmen, whom Akee (the boy) said he had paid at the close of the last Chinese year. The second charge was to recover \$10, paid to Akee in excess of the actual cost of some fans purchased in the city; and the third to recover a Chinaware vase taken without plaintiff's knowledge or consent.

Plaintiff, however, stated that his object was also to compel defendant to produce his books, and thereby show that Akee's statements made in the Police Court on the 3th instant, as to the total amount of wages he received, were false, although His Honour, Mr. Mowat, had been induced to believe them.

The evidence being very clear, the Court ordered the various amounts (excepting the tailor's bill which Akee had paid on the previous evening,) to be paid out of the money held by the Police Court to await the decision of this Court; also that one-half of the commission that Akee had appropriated be paid back to the plaintiff, the Magistrate declaring fifteen per cent. to be the usual commission where native servants purchase for their foreign masters; that the vase be returned, and the case be remanded till the 12th instant to allow of defendant's producing the tailor in support of his statement that the tailor had assented to his retention of the money as a loan. When the case again came on, the tailor attended to deny Akee's statement, but the defendant did not appear, and the Court issued a warrant for his arrest. Information has since been received from the Magistrate, of Akee's having left this for Canton on the 13th instant.

April 26th.

Extensive Robberies.

A youthful-looking native, clad in attire composed of silk and other rich material, was brought up on several charges of robbery from foreign hongs. For some months past, property of various kinds had disappeared in a mysterious manner, in some instances causing suspicion to fall upon innocent persons. Information was given to the Police, but for a long time even the native detectives were baffled by the ingenuity and audacity of the prisoner. At several of the hongs pilfered, he was well-known, his superior appearance removing all suspicion of dishonesty, it being believed by the watchmen and houseboys that his visits were for legitimate business purposes. But on one occasion, a few days ago, as he was leaving a hong, the watchman noticed something protruding from under his dress, that, from its peculiar pattern, looked much like part of a dressing-gown he knew to be usually worn by a gentleman connected therewith. He therefore stopped the prisoner, in whose possession he found the dressing-gown, carefully packed around him, except the small portion exposed, and which led to the discovery. Prisoner was of course given into custody, subsequent enquiries at the pawnshops showing that he had for a long

time been in the habit of pledging and selling personal property of all kinds, including clothing, blankets, jewellery, umbrellas, and even wines and cigars. Much of the property was recovered, and produced in Court; but, as it is believed there are other charges that can be brought against him, he was remanded for a week.

April 27th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate HARK, and Dr. YATES, U. S. Assessor.

A Profitable Contract stopped.

Some natives were brought up on a charge of stealing a quantity of mud from the foreshore on the Footung side of the Hwangpoo, fronting property belonging to a foreign firm. It appeared the accused had obtained a contract to fill in with soil some hollows on the Shanghai side of the river, for the sum of Tls. 100, and had resorted to the expedient of obtaining the necessary material gratis, from the nearest accessible point. A number of boats were therefore taken to the place above-mentioned, and the loading begun, when fortunately the proceedings were detected and the work stopped. It is not the first time such thefts have been committed; on one occasion, a heavy penalty being inflicted on the delinquents.—In the present case, a demand for further enquiries was applied for and granted.

Extracts.

THE DEPRECIATION OF SILVER.

(*Pall Mall Budget.*)

In the small hours on Saturday morning, just before the House of Commons adjourned, Lord George Hamilton obtained the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the causes of the depreciation in the value of silver. The inquiry is instituted not a moment too soon, for the extraordinary fall in the purchasing power of silver which has been in progress for some years is very injuriously affecting the interests of the Indian Government and of the European residents in the East. Lord Lytton told the Manchester deputation which waited upon him a couple of weeks ago, that at the present moment the Indian Government is losing 3d. on every rupee it transmits to Europe. That amounts to a loss of one-eighth. Now, the Indian Government transmits to this country in the shape of interest upon its debt, payment for material, stores, and the like, salaries, and other home charges about £15,000,000 sterling per annum. A loss of one-eighth upon this sum would amount to £1,875,000, twice the produce of the Indian import duties upon cotton, about which the Manchester people are raising such an outcry! In addition, it must be remembered, every European resident in India and China suffers in the same proportion from the depreciation. Every Civil servant whose children are at school in England loses half-a-crown in every pound he sends home; and so do our naval and military officers, the European employés of railways in India, and our merchants settled in the East. The currency of India is a silver currency, and salaries and prices are therefore paid in silver. But the home currency is in gold, and in transferring money home the silver, when exchanged for gold, is found to be worth one-eighth less than its nominal value. What is paid as the equivalent of a pound sterling in India is really worth only 17s. 6d. in gold. This is a state of things which clearly calls for consideration.

We need not wait for the report of Lord G. Hamilton's Committee, to discover the principal causes of the depreciation that is in progress. They are a greatly increased production of silver and a greatly diminished demand for it. The increased production has occurred chiefly in the United States. We have all heard of the discoveries of silver in Nevada and other territories beyond the Rocky Mountains, which gave rise to so much excitement in San Francisco. Those discoveries, though exaggerated for stock-jobbing purposes, appear to have been very real. Thus we learn from the reports of Professor Raymond, the United States Commissioner of Mining, that the total production of silver in the United States amounted, in 1850, to no more than £10,000. Even in 1860 it did not

exceed £30,000. In 1870 it had risen to £3,100,000. That is to say, the yield was 300 times greater than ten years before. In 1874 it exceeded £6,000,000. The years before it had been much larger. Between 1860 and 1875, in short, the production of silver from the American mines reached the value of £50,271,000. And it is estimated by a great bullion house in San Francisco that the productions of the next five years will exceed the productions of the last thirty years. This is, of course, no more than an estimate. But the correctness of the information of the house is vouched for by the New York *Financial and Commercial Chronicle*, a high authority in such a matter. In any case, whether the estimate be well or ill founded, it shows what are the expectations at the present time; and expectations have almost as much influence on the market as realities. When it is believed that the stock of any commodity will be forthcoming in extraordinary abundance, buyers hold back, while sellers press their sales.

While the production of the mines has been thus rapidly increasing, the bullion market has been flooded from another source. In 1871, the German Government decided upon adopting gold as the sole standard of value, degrading silver to the rank of a mere token coinage. Since then it has been engaged in the operation. It has been demonetizing and calling in the old silver currency, and has been disposing of it in considerable quantities. How much silver has been sold by Germany is not known, but it is believed that the quantity is large, and that, seeing the value of the metal steadily going down, the German Government thus endeavoured to realize before the depreciation proceeded too far. The result has been the extraordinary fall of the past few months. The action of the German Government has been heightened in effect by that of the Dutch, who have also decided upon a gold standard. This decision has had more influence on the commercial world than the importance of Holland would seem to justify. In the first place, Holland, like ourselves, has a great Eastern Empire, and when, in spite of that circumstance, she adopted a gold standard, it seemed as if other European countries without possessions in the East would be forced to reject silver. In the second place, Holland is now retracing the steps she took only a quarter of a century ago. When the great gold discoveries were made in California and Australia, it was universally expected that gold would fall in value and that silver would rise. Holland determined to anticipate that movement. She demonetized gold and adopted a silver standard. Her undoing of this policy now impresses the world's imagination, and strengthens the belief that silver is no longer available for a standard currency. Lastly, Japan, imitating in this as in so many other things the more advanced nations of the West, has also adopted a gold currency. It will thus be seen that, partly through the increased production of the mines and partly through the demonetization of silver and its withdrawal from circulation in Germany, Holland, and Japan, the supply of the metal has been enormously augmented, and a belief has been created that its value must continue to decrease.

While the supply has thus been increasing, the demand for silver has been almost rapidly falling off. Since 1870, France has been under a régime of inconvertible paper, as the United States, Austria, Russia, and Italy were long previously; and since 1871, Germany has been demonetizing silver, instead of requiring an additional supply, as Holland and Japan are now beginning to do. Lastly, we ourselves employ silver only as a token coinage. Thus all the great nations of the world have practically had no demand for the metal. In the States forming what is called the Latin Union, again—that is, France, Italy, Belgium, and Switzerland—a very strict limit has been put upon the coinage of silver. To guard against being flooded by the demonetized silver of Germany, and thus made to pay the expense of the new German coinage, these four States have entered a new convention to limit the coinage of silver to £4,000,000 per annum. This convention has most powerfully contributed to the depreciation of the metal, and it strengthens the general conviction that France, when resuming specie payments, will adopt an exclusive gold standard. For the danger of being made the

receptacle for the depreciated moneys of other countries will not cease with the resumption. Indeed, the probability is that American ingenuity will defeat the convention we have referred to. Already, it is said, Americans are preparing to coin in large amounts silver of perfectly good quality and admirable finish, and export it to France. Silver coined is worth much more than silver in bars, and, consequently it will pay well to coin without debasing the metal. If so, the French Government will be compelled to adopt some further protective measures, and the apprehension of this tends still further to beat down the purchasing power of silver. Finally, the recovery of the market by American cotton, and the decrease of the imports of cotton from India, have checked the absorptive power of India, and consequently the demand of the East for silver has greatly fallen off. These several circumstances sufficiently account for the depreciation of silver. We do not, indeed, say that there may not be other causes; but these are the most powerful.

The remedy suggested, which finds especial favour in India, is that we should adopt a gold standard in that empire. If the depreciation continues, we shall ultimately be driven to do this. But many persons contend that, when the demonetization of silver is completed in Germany, the fall in value will cease; and, if France should not adopt an exclusive gold standard, it is even argued that the value will begin to rise. Furthermore it is even pointed out that prices in India have not yet adapted themselves to the altered value of silver, but that when they do so many of the inconveniences now experienced will cease. These are all arguments for full inquiry and mature consideration. Moreover, the changing of the coinage of a vast empire is a work of exceeding difficulty and delicacy. We attach little importance to the cost of the undertaking; for, as we said above, India is at present losing nearly £2,000,000 a year. But it is only necessary to look at Germany to be convinced of the extreme difficulty of the task. She has been engaged in the new coinage for five years, and the work is not yet completed. Moreover, it is to be remembered that, if India rejects silver, the market for the metal will be seriously circumscribed, and it may be questioned whether we could dispose of our surplus stock to China and Central Asia. Lastly, the adoption of a gold coinage in India would greatly raise the value of gold, and very seriously inconvenience the exchanges. The German gold coinage has kept the European money markets in commotion for five years. An Indian coinage would not only prolong the disturbance for an indefinite period, it would also add to the scarcity of gold already in view, and would thereby embarrass the trade of the world. But at the same time India is not lightly to be sacrificed for the convenience of Europe.

THE TERRITORIAL ARISTOCRACY OF ENGLAND.

(*Spectator.*)

We publish to-day the true Libro d'Oro of England, a nominal roll of every man in England and Wales who possesses 5,000 acres in any one county, and belongs therefore to the Territorial Aristocracy, with the total acreage he possesses in all England, and the rental that acreage yields, which is not always, it must be remembered, the rental coming to him. Much of it is only reversionary, and Sir John Ramsden, Sir Lawrence Palk, the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Calthorpe, and many another, would be only too glad if they could pay annually to their bankers the rents which their successors will one day derive from the towns and cities built upon their lands. The rent-rolls, in fact, must be to a certain extent delusive, for apart from the great cause of error, the calculation of reversionary interests as if they were actual interests, there are burdens on estates like these which are sometimes very heavy. Those sources of error are unavoidable, nor will we absolutely guarantee our readers from errors in our own calculation. The very experienced indexer who has drawn out the roll confesses that the multitude of the statements, a multitude almost inconceivable to those who have not attempted the analysis, has sometimes bewildered him, and there may be cases in which a little outlying property has been missed. But we will guarantee that in no case has there been over-statement, and the

total result is a most extraordinary one, and one that would well justify any Club which interests itself in the repeal of the Land Laws, in expending a few hundreds in a short but thoroughly complete analysis of "Domesday Book." Whatever else is uncertain about the position of English landlords, this one fact is certain:—Seven hundred and ten individuals own more than a fourth of the soil of England and Wales, exclusive of lakes, roads, rivers, London, waste spaces, and Crown property, and within a fraction of a fourth of the entire geographical area of the country. And those 710 own also, immediately or in reversion, one-seventh of the entire rental of the kingdom, a proportion which, if London could be included, would be very greatly increased. This is exclusive, be it remembered, of almost all mineral property, which in 1873 was not rated to the poor. Mr. Bright was undoubtedly wrong in believing that Englishmen have been divorced from the soil, for a million heads of families are freeholders, 269,000 own more than an acre, and 43,000 possess more than 100 acres; but he was as undoubtedly right in believing that a most limited number of gentlemen—less than the congregation of an ordinary West-End chapel-of-ease—little more than half, for example, Mr. Haweis's audience on a full day; less by 300 than the Members of Parliament in both Houses—wield still an enormous territorial and political influence. They own a fourth of the kingdom,—more, probably, than the same class possess in any country in Europe, unless it be Hungary or Bohemia. The English Monasteries, when they were suppressed, had not a third, and the nobles of France, many thousands in number when the Revolution broke out, had only one-twelfth more. And, be it remembered, their acreage is not barren land, like the acreage of the Duke of Sutherland, or many other Scotch landlords. Scarcely any derives less than a pound an acre a year from their estates, and in the entire list we have found but one man who owns a really grand acreage of desert. Mr. John B. Bowes, of Streatham Castle, in the North Riding, has 48,887 acres in that Riding, yielding only £5,280 a year, besides, of course, other property elsewhere; but even he, if he is wise, will cling to those acres of barren moorland, or hill-side, or marsh, under all temptations, for the next half-century. Even if he has no minerals, population and railways and towns and wealth will roll his way at last, and we venture to record the prediction that the possessor of his estate in 1925 will derive from it a clear rent-roll of £50,000 a year. The North Riding cannot always remain a despair even to financing Railway Engineers, and in this country, this buzzing hive of human beings, great acreage means potentially great wealth. It is not the proprietor of the Craven moors or of the sandy dunes round Brighton who feels inclined to sing, with the Poet Laureate, "Oh, the dreary, dreary moorland! oh, the barren, barren shore!" for pleasure-land yields better, very often, than either corn-field or pasture. And there is nothing on earth, we doubt if in the history of the world there ever has been anything, like the position of the Englishmen who own 20,000 acres and can extract from them even a pound an acre. Rich, secure, and treated with a deference that nothing but crime can disturb, civilization may in one sense be said to exist for them, for it is for them, first of all, that its treasures are poured out. They can live lives of political strife, or intellectual excitement, or supreme personal luxury, at discretion; can know all men, collect all things; and greatest boon of all, live absolutely their own lives, without reproach, or fear of society, or dread of coming change. Nobles in other ages have held as much in proportion, but their lives were threatened by Emperors, by slaves, or by rivals, till existence was one long study of defensive arts. The English territorialist is as safe in his home as a king in his capital, and if he has no slaves, can secure service from agents, whose power as compared with that of slaves, is limitless; can realise his will without effort, though his will, as the Hindoos say be to purchase tigers' claws,—quite a common article of trade in London and Paris, just now, or even, we hear, as articles de luxe, a little passé.

This is not the time for essays on the good or the evil of such an order in the State, but we are unwilling to submit such a list to the envious without just one

remark. There is no evidence whatever that the system can be altered, either gradually or suddenly, by means that a statesman or a moralist would recommend. It could be altered by recurrent confiscations,—that is, by abolishing the Eighth Commandment, because it made some men too comfortable. It could be altered by an *impôt progressif* upon land,—that is, by a breach of the national faith, which commands that taxation shall have revenue, and not the pillage of a class, for its first end. And it could be altered by an abolition of the freedom of bequest, which would completely revolutionise the condition, not only of English society, but of every family within it, and for which the people, as a whole, are utterly unprepared. There are no other methods of alteration. That really should be declared personally by statute is, we firmly believe, essential to the development of the country, whose interests demand that every acre should at any time be saleable, and we hope yet to see that revolution accomplished, but that revolution will not of itself divide great properties. Men will still hunger, for distinction's sake, for them. They think—and they think accurately,—that Mr. Bowes, of London, with £5,000 a year, and Mr. Bowes, of Streatham Castle, North Riding, with 48,000 acres, are totally different entities in English eyes; and they will buy the acres, and keep the acres together, in *secula seculorum*, if they can; and from the day that really becomes personally, their powers of doing so will be increased rather than diminished, though its exercise will demand rather more trouble, and rather more effort to discipline their children into contentment with inequality. What is the use of concealing the truth? No Christian civilisation can be organised which shall render great fortunes impossible, or prevent successful efforts for their transmission. Jacob Astor exists in New York, as well as the Duke of Westminster in London. All that honest politicians can do is to abolish laws which artificially increase inequalities, rescue all dependents from political pressure, and in the case of land, support a tenure which shall admit of an agricultural middle-class. If the Seven Hundred are wise, they will support one too, for they may rely on it that it is not in their greatness, but in the way their greatness prevents all beneath them from ripening, that their true danger consists. People do not cut down great trees because they exist, or because they are seeking firewood, but because they are in the way. The Duke of Northumberland, leading the people, and regarded by his tenantry as their assurance-office, will no more be attacked for his possessions than John Nokes, who has made four millions by insuring cargoes. The envious as well as the curious may study our list curiously, but they may rely on it that, as the world is, it is easier for them to enter it, than to brush it away.

Clippings.

The *Madras Standard* states that the King of Burmah intends to construct a railway from Nijmám to Mandalay and Bhámo. The line selected is one in which very few engineering difficulties exist. The contract for the work has been given to an Italian firm, which has undertaken to complete it within three years.

The death is announced of the Hon. W. B. Reed, L.L.D., who was American Minister in China in 1858, when the Treaty of Tientsin was signed. Mr. Reed was a member of the bar, and after his return from China resumed his profession. He was in his seventieth year.

The *Daily Press* says, the British barque *Mount Lebanon*, which arrived at Hong-kong on the 23rd, from Cardiff, reports a reef in lat. 10 N. long. 116.11 E., about 45 miles N.N.E. of the first Thomas Shoal, not down in the chart, and heavy breakers were on it at the time of sighting.

The *Liverpool Mercury* says that throughout the hundred of Blackburn an unusual depression in the cotton trade has prevailed. The stocks of manufactured goods have accumulated so persistently, that the cloth

market is glutted. Under these circumstances, curtailment in production of cloth has become an absolute necessity. Steps are being taken that will result in the adoption of short time in factories where 50,000 factory workers are employed.

The uncertainty which surrounds the navigation of the Straits of Magellan, says the *Atta*, is about to be set at rest in the attempt which is ordered to be made by the British ship-of-war *Opal*, now going from England to join the Pacific Squadron, to penetrate the hitherto comparatively little known channel of the north passage, by which the passage through those dangerous straits may be shortened about 200 miles. Should the *Opal* succeed in her attempt to push her way through, she will be the first vessel of war which will have achieved that feat, although it has been accomplished by one or two steamers.

It appears that Mr. Henry Hart, who was the special agent of the Pacific Mail Company in China and Japan for two years, has brought suit against the Company to recover \$125,000. According to the *Atta*, Mr. Hart claims to have a contract with the Company giving him a percentage on all contracts he should be able to make with the Japanese Government. He avers that he obtained the contract to carry the mails between Japan and China, through the Inland Sea, for one year from January 1st, 1877 (*sic*). He also claims that he accomplished the sale of the inland mail line of steamers which consisted of the *Golden Age*, *Costa Rica*, *Nevada*, and *Oregonian*, for the sum of \$780,000. No payment has been made to him for percentage on his services.

The *Times* announces the dismissal of Sir D. Lange, the Agent in England for the Suez Canal Company. He had, it appears, formerly urged the British Government to buy the Canal, and his representations were, by a grave breach of confidence, included in the Parliamentary papers on the purchase. M. de Lesseps therefore dismissed him. He appears to have exceeded his authority though he acted in the interest of the shareholders, and M. de Lesseps may not be to blame, but the step raises doubts as to the Chairman's assurances that he welcomes English co-operation. It looks very much as if he would very gladly keep England out of Egypt, and betrays a feeling which may compel the new shareholder to risk a conflict with him. Sir D. Lange's letters are not of yesterday, but his dismissal is. The British Government, according to Mr. Bourke, knows nothing about the matter, which is its most usual, but not most satisfactory position.—*The Spectator*.

It has been announced that the Government of the United States proposes to resume the issue of silver currency with as little delay as possible. The gradual redemption of fractional paper notes will begin as soon as a bill authorizing the change can be passed by Congress. Several consultations have taken place between the Secretary of the Treasury, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Director of the Mint, and it is agreed on all sides that the measure should be no longer delayed. In fact, \$12,000,000 of silver coin are already at the disposal of the Treasury, and \$8,000,000 dollars' worth of bullion is ready for the mint. The first step will probably be the exchange of \$16,000,000 of silver for paper fractional currency representing the same amount, and this is expected to be accomplished by the 30th of June. The entire amount now in circulation will be called in, it is hoped, within a year. It is, however, only \$37,000,000 altogether, and no decisive check to the decline in silver can result from the coining of so small an amount. There is a still further proposition, upon which no decision has yet been taken, to abolish notes for one and two dollars, and substitute silver for them as well. If this should be carried out, we may look for something approaching a return to former values. Under the new arrangement, silver will be legal tender for sums under five dollars.

TERMS FOR ADVERTISING.—Ten Lines and under, *One Tael*; each additional line *One Mace*. One-half of these charges for repetitions. Contracts may be made for 3 months, or longer, payable in advance.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS.—SEASON 1875-6.

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED AT AND FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Deucalion	May 18	Shanghai	7,708.95	.....	7,708.95
Glenartney	" 19	Hankow	16,919.65	.....	16,919.65
Bengal	" 20	"	15,355.03	.....	15,355.03
Anadyr	" 22	Shanghai	691.04	.....	691.04
Lotus	" 26	Kiukiang	2,771.10	.....	2,771.10
"	" 26	Hankow	15,728.53	.....	15,728.53
Glenearn	" 23	"	16,877.25	.....	16,877.25
Fleure Castle	" 24	"	19,839.16	.....	19,839.16
Glenfalloch	" 29	"	17,948.88	.....	17,948.88
Strauburg	" 28	"	20,190.76	.....	20,190.76
Hindustan	" 29	Shanghai	2,658.09	.....	2,658.09
Antenor	" 31	"	12,703.78	.....	12,703.78
Russia	"	"	16,109.27	.....	16,109.27
Hankow	"	"	20,901.89	.....	20,901.89
Gordon Castle	June 4	Hankow	17,130.42	.....	17,130.42
Agamemnon	May 31	Shanghai	17.85	.....	17.85
Achilles	June 14	"	14,173.44	122.68	14,296.12
"	" 14	"	196.60	.....	196.60
Zambesi	" 12	"	4,780.39	.....	4,780.39
Venice	" 13	Hankow	12,444.81	.....	12,444.81
"	" 14	Kiukiang	2,390.21	.....	2,390.21
Cutty Sark	" 18	Shanghai	10,107.74	.....	10,107.74
Tigre	" 19	"	8.88	.....	8.88
Tehiatchoff	" 26	Hankow	6,897.16	.....	6,897.16
Tartar	" 25	Shanghai	11,458.75	.....	11,458.75
Nizam	" 26	"	3,227.90	.....	3,227.90
"	" 26	"	826.80	.....	826.80
Glaucus	" 25	"	10,457.26	.....	10,457.26
Ava	July 3	"	347.99	.....	347.99
"	" 3	"	9.81	.....	9.81
Ajax	" 3	"	6,956.92	.....	6,956.92
Altona	" 3	"	7,848.44	.....	7,848.44
Craigforth	" 8	Hankow	9,465.68	.....	9,465.68
Venice	" 10	Shanghai	6,300.08	1,298.19	7,598.27
Black Adder	" 16	"	10,691.87	.....	10,691.87
Cawdor Castle	" 15	Hankow	11,700.60	.....	11,700.60
"	" 16	Kiukiang	2,985.22	.....	2,985.22
Sarpedon	" 17	Shanghai	5,572.04	.....	5,572.04
Hoogly	" 17	"	11.66	650.38	662.04
"	" 17	"	8.68	.....	8.68
Cawdor Castle	" 22	"	1,578.92	2,196.99	3,775.91
Egeria	" 17	"	8,626.35	.....	8,626.35
Gwalior	" 17	Hamburg	10.40	.....	10.40
"	" 24	London	4,353.42	897.18	5,250.60
Priam	" 24	Bombay	22.64	.....	22.64
Glenyle	" 29	Shanghai	2,959.30	668.07	3,627.37
Iraoudy	" 29	"	12,576.47	1,063.59	13,640.06
Deerhound	" 31	"	111.71	706.63	818.34
Glenroy	Aug. 4	"	6,069.60	.....	6,069.60
Cathay	" 6	"	5,614.83	305.41	5,920.24
"	" 7	"	5,048.70	1,439.56	6,488.26
"	" 7	Continent	8.10	.....	8.10
"	" 7	Bombay	7.40	238.31	245.71
Ægean	" 6	Hankow	.....	.....	8,390.77
Peiho	" 14	Shanghai	0.56	1,166.96	1,167.52
Ulysses	" 13	"	6,754.85	936.12	7,690.97
Menelaus	" 20	"	7,306.84	871.61	8,178.45
Malwa	" 21	"	2,178.05	174.26	2,352.31
"	" 21	Bombay	230.07	.....	230.07
Scotland	" 21	Shanghai	3,492.86	134.56	3,627.42
Undine	" 23	"	8,603.22	.....	8,603.22
Bellona	" 6	London	7,806.55	183.39	7,989.94
"	" 6	Hamburg	465.85	.....	465.85
Meikong	" 28	London	1.20	229.04	230.24
"	" 28	Bombay	.....	74.01	74.01
Norman Court	Sept. 2	London	6,587.78	.....	6,587.78
Stentor	" 3	"	3,489.90	539.55	4,029.45
Surat	" 4	"	2,095.44	2,059.12	4,154.56
"	" 4	Bombay	0.60	287.08	287.68
Amazon	" 11	London	.....	83.60	83.60
Diomed	" 11	"	1,105.88	1,037.74	2,143.62
Erl King	" 8	"	10,874.13	754.87	11,629.00
Peahawur	" 18	"	2,597.17	1,394.66	3,991.83
"	" 18	Bombay	.....	384.80	384.80
Quangse	" 18	London	5,003.98	301.48	5,305.46
Cybele	" 20	"	404.10	137.53	541.63
Orestes	" 21	"	536.18	35.70	571.88
Anadyr	" 25	"	0.30	169.91	170.11
"	" 25	Bombay	.....	312.32	312.32
Flamingo	" 25	London	7,550.75	1,441.24	8,991.99
Olympia	" 28	"	1,067.53	410.07	1,477.60
"	" 28	Hamburg	121.00	.....	121.00
Hector	Oct. 1	London	4,037.41	403.85	4,441.26
"	" 1	Odessa	185.29	.....	185.29
Teheran	" 7	Gibraltar	7.02	.....	7.02
"	" 7	Bombay	22.16	86.75	108.91
Toviot	" 13	London	10,490.70	2,583.40	13,074.10
Djemnah	" 14	"	45.90	127.45	173.35
"	" 14	Marseilles	3.79	.....	3.79
"	" 14	Bombay	.....	261.88	261.88
Patroclus	" 14	London	2,358.53	1,069.53	3,428.06
"	" 14	Odessa	84.52	.....	84.52
Geelong	" 21	London	0.44	.....	0.44
"	" 21	Bombay	.....	240.67	240.67
Nestor	" 23	London	1,551.66	1,575.36	3,127.02
Ava	" 28	"	1.63	892.58	894.21
Ava	" 28	Bombay	.....	148.07	148.07

TO GREAT BRITAIN.—Continued.

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED AT AND FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Agamemnon	Nov. 1	London	2,326.70	758.38	3,085.08
Glenearn	Oct. 29	"	3,530.56	5,943.16	9,473.72
Kashgar	Nov. 4	London	.....	775.65	775.65
Ascalon	" 12	"	6,325.87	1,028.59	7,354.46
Tigre	" 11	"	.....	907.04	907.04
"	" 11	Bombay	.....	201.75	201.75
Antenor	" 13	London	1,695.53	620.38	2,315.91
Khiva	" 18	"	.....	322.96	322.96
"	" 18	Bombay	.....	351.96	351.96
Lorne	" 17	London	2,460.34	2,140.15	4,600.49
Halloween	" 20	"	6,490.38	520.24	7,010.62
Viking	" 24	"	2,265.79	760.77	3,026.56
Hoogly	" 25	"	.....	342.33	342.33
"	" 25	Bombay	.....	340.69	340.69
Achilles	" 25	London	904.62	297.71	1,202.33
Golconda	Dec. 2	"	27.10	190.25	217.35
"	" 2	Bombay	.....	176.76	176.76
Galatea	" 2	London	372.22	.....	372.22
"	" 2	Hamburg	0.80	.....	0.80
Glaucus	" 4	London	1,249.45	504.52	2,054.00
Iraoudy	" 9	"	345.77	474.97	820.74
"	" 9	Bombay	.....	269.16	269.16
Tameralane	" 10	London	4,926.74	.....	4,926.74
Anchises	" 14	"	1,021.45	669.93	1,691.38
Avoca	" 16	"	.....	620.96	620.96
"	" 16	Bombay	33.92	494.31	528.23
Ajax	" 24	London	2,240.33	758.29	2,998.62
Menzaleh	" 23	Marseilles	.....	463.47	463.47
"	" 23	Bombay	.....	188.43	188.43
Ceylon	" 30	London	529.70	.....	529.70
"	" 30	Bombay	2.47	349.45	351.92
"	" 30	Calcutta	.....	12.64	12.64
Meikong	Jan. 6	Bombay	.....	56.40	56.40
Deucalion	" 7	London	819.15	225.72	1,044.87
Ethiopian	" 7	"	1,758.01	733.92	2,491.93
Gwalior	" 13	"	1,601.02	181.76	1,782.78
Kashgar	" 14	"	.....	180.89	180.89
"	" 14	Bombay	.....	530.52	530.52
Sarpedon	" 19	London	450.58	2,401.66	2,852.24
Amazon	" 20	"	434.92	281.31	716.23
"	" 20	Bombay	21.60	145.19	166.79
Bombay	" 24	London	.....	513.73	513.73
"	" 24	Bombay	.....	175.05	175.05
Priam	Feb. 2	London	106.65	1,210.58	1,317.23
Anadyr	" 3	"	.....	263.31	263.31
Ulysses	" 10	"	1.50	1,263.15	1,264.65
Gwalior	" 10	Bombay	.....	65.87	65.87
Djemnah	" 17	London	.....	56.00	56.00
Menelaus	" 19	"	8.22	239.19	261.41
Peiho	Mar. 3	"	.....	400.40	400.40
Stentor	" 3	"	6.80	1,003.44	1,010.24
Lombardy	" 9	"	2.53	.....	2.53
"	" 9	Bombay	65.82	137.69	203.51
Diomed	" 15	London	5.44	1,853.14	1,858.58
Tigre	" 16	"	0.94	320.49	321.43
Lucadia	" 20	"	.....	1,699.82	1,699.82
Teheran	" 24	"	6.45	.....	6.45
"	" 24	Bombay	0.90	22.00	22.90
Patroclus	" 30	London	20.47	729.17	749.64
Hoogly	" 31	Bombay	.....	41.93	41.93
Geelong	Apr. 6	"	.....	24.26	24.26
Iraoudy	" 13	"	.....	56.53	56.53
Sindh	" 22	"	.....	77.56	77.56
Total			22,246.44	17,367.467	195,921.11

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Oscar Vidal	June 17	N'gawak	2,672.57	.....	2,672.57
Nagasaki	" 23	"	151.01	.....	151.07
Yokohama	" 23	"	14.75	.....	14.71
New York	June 29	"	169.41	.....	169.45
S. F. Cisco	" 29	"	95.36	.....	95.31
Yokohama	" 29	"	17.96	.....	17.96
Singapore	July 3	"	119.00	.....	119.06
New York	" 6	"	.....	120.00	120.00
Nagasaki	" 6	"	94.35	.....	94.30
Higo	" 6	"	12.02	.....	12.05
Yokohama	" 6	"	7.98	.....	7.92
New York	" 14	"	.....	469.88	469.88
Sarpedon	" 17	"	145.40	620.74	666.14
Cawdor Castle	" 22	"	.....	341.29	341.28
Gwalior	" 22	Boston	.....	22.64	22.64
Priam	" 29	Odessa	596.79	.....	596.75
"	" 29	New York	263.20	100.00	363.23
"	" 29	Boston	64.98	233.57	298.54
Glenyle	" 29	New York	53.60	269.23	322.89
Golden Age	" 30	S. F. Cisco	13.10	262.54	275.69
"	" 30	New York	125.86	566.20	692.06
"	" 30	Boston	54.66	199.27	253.93
"	" 30	Hamilton	66.28	.....	66.28
Yokohama	" 30	"	6.09	.....	6.09

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS.—SEASON 1875-6.—Continued.

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.—Continued.

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.—Continued.

VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.	VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
Cathay	s.s. Aug. 7	Bombay	7.40	238.21	245.61	Glenlyon	s.s. Oct 19	Japan	.....	1,269.19	1,269.19
Cathay	" 7	Odessa	251.36		251.36	Europe	" 12	Tientsin	49.51	2,024.25	2,073.76
Costa Rica	" 4	Yokohama	1.62		1.62	Geelong	" 21	Hongkong	.....	19.28	19.28
Hochung	July 29	Tientsin	659.73		659.73	Nestor	" 23	Japan	.....	202.00	202.00
China	July 28	Hongkong	9.30		9.30	Costa Rica	" 29	New York	.....	770.42	770.42
Hupei	" 31	Tientsin	.....	305.95	305.95	Fleurs Castle	" 30	"	69.76	6,641.07	6,710.83
Chihli	" 27	Tientsin	400.46	0.30	400.76	Ascalon	Nov 12	"	.....	.....	1,694.00
Tokio Maru	" 30	Hiogo	2.40		2.40	Nevada	" 13	"	17.00	.....	17.00
Europe	" 31	Chifoo	27.00		27.00	Elmstone	" 20	"	1.35	4,936.18	4,937.53
Yungching	Aug. 2	Tientsin	823.03		823.03	Challenge	" 23	"	.....	3,030.33	3,030.33
Haining	" 3	"	1,284.84		1,284.84	"	" 23	Japan	.....	1,294.84	1,294.84
Howsang	" 5	"	317.90		317.90	Shantung	" 17	Tientsin	93.56	3,705.96	3,799.52
Nevada	" 14	New York	32.00	1,021.91	1,053.91	Viking	" 24	Japan	.....	466.00	466.00
"	" 14	Chicago	.....	524.39	524.39	Appin	" 16	Tientsin	141.88	1,724.82	1,866.70
"	" 14	S. F. cisco	131.60		131.60	Hoogly	" 25	Hongkong	.....	34.98	34.98
Oregonian	" 19	"	.....	13.65	13.65	Chihli	" 20	Tientsin	189.90	1,182.96	1,372.86
Herman	" 24	New York	21.35		21.35	Genkai Maru	Dec. 1	New York	.....	620.31	620.31
Shanso	" 26	Ningpo	.....	.....	332.30	"	" 1	San F. cisco	0.30	33.04	33.34
Golden Age	" 28	New York	92.25	2,691.69	2,783.94	Hiroshima Maru	Nov 23	Yokohama	1.08	.....	1.08
"	" 28	S. F. cisco	0.50	30.25	30.75	Howsang	" 23	Hongkong	3.02	.....	3.02
Galley of Lorne	" 28	New York	694.48	4,752.81	5,447.29	Thales	" 26	Foochow	.....	27.62	27.62
Taku	" 30	Tientsin	266.72	2,991.96	3,258.68	Nagoya Maru	Dec 8	Nagasaki	2.16	.....	2.16
Hupei	" 27	Ningpo	.....	2.26	2.26	Gordon Castle	" 10	New York	646.21	4,917.41	5,563.62
Stentor	Sept. 3	New York	.....	498.19	498.19	Fire Queen	" 11	"	2.40	4,965.25	4,967.65
Costa Rica	" 4	New York	.....	3,105.53	3,105.53	Tokio Maru	" 15	Yokohama	3.24	.....	3.24
"	" 4	"	332.31		332.31	Nevada	" 18	New York	.....	1,887.33	1,887.33
Nevada	" 7	Yokohama	.....	2,889.45	2,889.45	"	" 18	San F. cisco	.....	25.98	25.98
Costa Rica	" 4	New York	.....	3,105.33	3,105.33	Harlaw	" 16	New York	.....	7,768.77	7,768.77
Amazon	" 11	"	.....	76.50	76.50	Ajax	" 24	"	.....	134.11	134.11
Diomed	" 11	"	.....	358.93	358.93	Genkai Maru	" 29	"	.....	1,755.11	1,755.11
Diomed	" 11	Odessa	1,533.10		1,533.10	Geo. Thompson	Jan. 10	"	38.60	9,294.41	9,333.01
Shantung	" 3	Tientsin	.....	.....	4,212.06	Kishon	" 10	"	59.67	4,522.93	4,582.60
Oregonian	" 14	New York	.....	3,219.83	3,219.83	Tokio Maru	" 11	Yokohama	3.75	.....	3.75
"	" 14	Yokohama	1.50		1.50	Nevada	" 18	New York	.....	1,602.63	1,602.63
Charley	" 16	N. J. cisco	143.40	2,841.35	2,984.75	"	" 18	San F. cisco	.....	4.96	4.96
Glenartney	" 23	New York	232.23	9,182.37	9,415.60	Sarpedon	" 19	New York	.....	269.61	269.61
Costa Rica	" 29	"	.....	1,221.60	1,221.60	Mikado	" 21	"	.....	5,012.98	5,012.98
"	" 29	S. F. cisco	0.40	11.02	11.42	Ulysses	Feb. 10	"	.....	124.91	124.91
"	" 29	Hiogo	2.21		2.21	Falcon	" 11	"	1,390.71	5,512.44	6,903.15
"	" 29	Yokohama	8.64		8.64	Golden State	" 14	"	537.33	7,504.63	8,041.96
Hector	Oct. 1	Hongkong	1.25		1.25	Nevada	" 14	"	.....	1,695.37	1,695.37
Chihli	Sept. 10	Tientsin	527.16	144.92	772.28	"	" 14	San F. cisco	.....	132.26	132.26
Nevada	Oct. 6	Yokohama	12.43		12.43	Genkai Maru	" 29	New York	.....	11.52	11.52
Europe	Sept. 28	Tientsin	3,951.75		3,951.75	Stentor	Mar. 3	"	.....	129.34	129.34
Thales	" 29	Foochow	46.46		46.46	Nevada	" 15	"	.....	281.53	281.53
Wylo	Oct. 9	New York	100.92	5,985.77	6,086.69	"	" 15	San F. cisco	.....	40.00	40.00
Taku	" 1	Tientsin	1,746.68		1,746.68	Titania	" 24	New York	.....	7,452.37	7,452.37
Oregonian	" 13	New York	.....	248.12	248.12	"	" 24	(Japan Tea)	.....	.....	3,182.00
"	" 13	S. F. cisco	56.10		56.10	Patroclus	" 30	New York	.....	155.98	155.98
"	" 13	Yokohama	1.62		1.62	Genkai Maru	" 30	"	.....	3.50	3.50
Takasago Maru	Oct 13	Hiogo	11.37		11.37						
Yangtze	" 9	Canton	1.60		1.60						
Glenlyon	" 19	New York	382.07	6,849.26	7,231.33						
										Total	526,151.67
											39,754.18
											555,905.85

SHANGHAI SILK AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1875.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	TO GREAT BRITAIN.	TO MARSEILLES, AND CONTINENT.	TO AMERICA.	TO HONG-KONG, COAST PORTS, &c.	TOTAL CHINA.	JAPAN TRANSHIPED.	GRAND TOTAL.
Total as per last Report	Bales. 25,146	Bales. 33,150	Bales. 6,768	Bales. 538	Bales. 65,577	Bales. ..	Bales. 65,577
Subsequent Shipments	133	116	..	..	249	..	249
Total	25,279	33,266	6,768	538	65,826	..	65,826

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 22ND APRIL, 1876.

IMPORTED	MALWA.		PATNA.		BENARES.		PERSIAN.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	203	203.00	3	3.60	2	2.40	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	203	203.00	3	3.60	2	2.40	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption	17½	17.50	87	104.40	48	57.60	..	..

Description.	Chinking.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Ningpo.	Foochow.	Amoy.	Total.
RE-EXPORTED.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.
Malwa	175½ 175.50	32½ 32.50	28 28.00	104½ 104.50	73 73.00	25½ 25.50	50 50.00	10 10.00	..	499 499.00
Patna	6 7.20	..	..	..	5 6.00	1 1.20	3 3.60	10 12.00	..	25 30.00
Benares	6 7.20	..	..	..	..	2 2.40	..	..	..	8 9.60
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12 12.00	12 12.00
Total	187½ 189.90	32½ 32.50	28 28.00	104½ 104.50	78 79.00	28½ 29.10	53 53.60	20 22.00	12 12.00	544 550.60

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 28TH APRIL, 1876.

ARRIVALS.—The M. M. steamer *Meikong* and P. & O. steamer *Hindustan*, with the London mails of 10th and 17th March respectively, the steamers *Antenor* from Liverpool, and *Russia* and *Viking* from London.

PIECE GOODS.—Holders have given way; their patience is evidently exhausted; they may not wait any longer; and "force" is now the-actuating sentiment with most of them. Their hope is ebbing fast, and their fears are as rapidly gaining the mastery over them. That long expected demand seems as distant as ever; at least, there are no more signs of its approach visible to-day than there have been for weeks past; nor is it likely that the natives will hasten it much since the market has declared itself so decidedly in their favor. But even they, or the monied portion of them—for those are about the only people who can take advantage of the present state of affairs—are somewhat perplexed and afraid to act, and they would be very pleased if they could assure themselves that prices have seen their lowest. Under these circumstances it may safely be assumed that Piece Goods business at the present moment possesses but few of the elements of stability, or, as far as buyers are concerned, of spontaneity. The week under review opened with forced sales of *Grey Shirtings* and *Drills* by original and secondhand holders, and sellers have since been, and are still very willing to accommodate buyers upon the same principle—so to speak. Thus quotations at the close are quite nominal, and their tendency is downwards.

Grey Shirtings.—Dewhurst's *Eagle* 8½-lbs. have declined to Tls. 1.88 a 1.90 and the lowest grades have reached Tls. 1.55 per piece, medium to good shewing a similar fall; 6 and 7-lbs. have likewise receded in value, while heavy goods have once more become unsaleable almost.—The heavy business done in 9½ and 10-lbs. about ten days ago turns out to have been speculative.—Total sales and resales this week 60,000 a 70,000 pieces.

White Shirtings.—The sales continue trifling and embrace good ordinary qualities of 64-reeds principally at Tls. 1.87 a 1.90 per piece 56 and 60-reeds are still wanted but supplies do not come.

T.-Cloths.—Fine Mexican 7-lbs. have been in retail enquiry and buyers have settled somewhere about 14,000 pieces at from Tls. 1.45 a 1.48 per piece, over which they refuse to go. A small lot of Dewhurst's Mexican 6-lbs. has been disposed of at Tls. 1.30 per piece. For common 6 and 7-lbs. there has not been any market, and the latest sale of 8-lbs. (8,500 pieces) fair quality was done at Tls. 1.40 per piece to speculators.

Drills.—American Drills have held their own, there having been a further business (2,100 pieces) in P. M. C. D. and *Cock* chops at last week's prices, but the *English* article is nowhere—the last recorded sales being for good ordinary 14-lbs. Tls. 2.05 a 2.07 and for similar quality 15-lbs. Tls. 2.10 a 2.15 per piece. In *Dutch* there has not been anything reported. Total sales 7,000 pieces.

Jeans.—2,000 pieces good chop and cloth at Tls. 1.60 per piece are all that have changed hands. And a like quantity of *American SHEETINGS*—*Indian Head*—has been taken, the price accepted being Tls. 3.20, which establishes a marked decline on the quotations of last mail day.

Fancy Cottons.—The very best 26 in *Velveteens* have been occasionally asked for without, however, any satisfactory result to either buyer or seller, and imitation *Cashmeres* might have found merchants if holders would have consented to a reduction of about 2 mace per piece on former currencies.—A trifling business goes on still in *Handkerchiefs* and assorted *Chintzes*, but taken at its best the trade in Fancies can only be described as a retail one.

Woolens of all kinds continue very dull of sale. There is hardly anything doing beyond what takes place at the auctions, and the dealers yesterday, in their own peculiar way, marked their sense, or appreciation of the arrangement which, in times like these, provides them with supplies against their will. The particulars will be found below.

The range of prices for the 1,900 pieces 8½-lbs. *Junk* chop *Grey Shirtings* referred to in our last report should have been printed Tls. 1.57 down to Tls. 1.55½ per piece.

C. P. H.	Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, ... per piece...Tls.	13.0.0	13.7.5	13.2.0	12.7.0	13.3.0	...	12.00	12.6.0	12.0.0	...
Long Ells, ... " " "	7.0.5	6.4.0	6.6.0	7.0.0	6.7.0	...	...	6.9.0	6.0.0	...
Spanish Stripes, ... per yard " "	0.5.6	0.5.5½	0.5.8	0.5.8	0.5.2	0.5.2	0.5.2	0.5.0	0.5.1	0.5.0

PRICES REALIZED AT THE AUCTIONS HELD ON 27TH APRIL, 1876.

	Scarlet.	Dark Blue	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	Purple.	Black.	Brown	Mauve.	Yellow	Magenta
S.S.G. Camlets p. pce. £	12.57½/65	13.22½/25	12.85/95	12.65/70	13.22½/25	...	12.52½/40	.....	...	12.60	...	...
H.H. " " "	12.42½	12.95	12.75	12.42½	12.95	...	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...
G.G. Long Ells " " "	6.81/82	6.31	6.47	.....	6.48	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...
H.H. Sp. Stripes p.yd. "	0.58/58½	0.58½	0.59½	0.60	0.58	0.58	.....	6.01	.....	.....	...	...
T.T.B. " " "	0.56½	0.56½	0.58½/58½	.....	.....	0.53	0.55	0.55	.....	.....	...	...

SALES.—700 pieces *Camlets*; 200 pieces *Long Ells*; 450 pieces *Spanish Stripes*.

Grey Shirtings—8½-lbs., 3,250 pieces, at Tls. 1.61½ for *Blue Lighthouse*; Tls. 1.57½ for *House*; and 7-lbs. *Green Lighthouse*, 500 pieces, at Tls. 1.42½ per piece.

White Shirtings.—64 reed *Blue Lighthouse*, 1,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.81½ per piece.

T.-Cloths.—7-lbs. (Mexican) *Green Lighthouse*, 400 pieces, at Tls. 1.27 per pce.; and (Common) *House*, 300 pieces, at Tls. 1.17½ per pce.

Drills.—14-lbs. *Green Lighthouse*, 510 pieces, at Tls. 2.06 a 2.07½ per piece.

Jeans.—*Peacock* chop, 520 pieces, at Tls. 1.53½ a 1.53½ per piece.

G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—		T.m.c. T.m.c.	64 „ Best & 66 Reed....	2.0.2½, 2.2.0	SHEETINGS—	
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds. ...	pc. 1.2.2 to 1.3.1		68 @ 80 reed.....	2.2.5 „ 2.5.5	Amr., 40yds. 36 a 38in. 15½lbs. nom. 3.1.5 „ 3.2.5	
7-lbs.	1.4.0 „ 1.5.6		Best.....	2.5.0 „ 2.9.0	Eng., „ „ 14 a 16lbs. ...2.2.5 „ 2.5.5	
Dewhurst's Eagle, ...	1.6.2 „ 1.6.5		DRILLS, Am. 40yd 30in 15½ lb. nom. 2.9.0 „ 3.0.5			
8½ a 8½ lbs.	1.5.5 „ 1.9.0		English, „ 14 a 15-lbs....	2.0.7 „ 2.2.7	T.-CLOTHS—	
9 a 9½ lbs.	2.0.0 „ 2.2.0		Do. Fine to Finest „	2.4.0 „ 2.7.0		
9½ a 10-lbs. nom.	2.2.5 „ 2.5.0		Dutch, 13 a 14½-lbs.	2.3.5 „ 2.4.5		
Dewhurst's, Best	2.6.5 „ 2.7.5		JEANS, Dh., Best, 30yd. 30in. 8½lbs. 2.1.0 „ 2.2.0			
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—			English „ „ 8 a 8½lbs....	1.5.0 „ 1.8.0		6-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord... p. pc. 0.9.9 „ 1.0.8
40 yds. 36 in. 56 Reed...	pc. 1.6.5 „ 1.7.5		American „ „	none.	7-lbs. 24yds. 32in. Ord... „ 1.1.6 „ 1.2.5	
60 reed	1.7.0 „ 1.8.0		6-lbs. Mex. „ 1.2.0 „ 1.3.2			
64 „	1.8.0 „ 2.0.0		7-lbs. „ „ 1.3.0 „ 1.5.2			
			8 to 8½-lbs. „ 1.4.4 „ 1.7.2½			
			Better kinds and XX 1.8.5 „ 2.0.7½			

HANDKERCHIEFS, Blue 28 in. ½ dz. 0.50, 0.55	VELVETS—Black, 22 in. ½ yd. 0.16½, 0.18	LONG ELLS—
Brown, 0.40, 0.40	VELVETEENS—Black, 18 in., 0.12½, 0.13½	Scarlet, 24 yrd. H H nom. ½ pc. 7.05, ...
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White ½ pc. 2.10, 2.25	26 in., 0.19, 0.21	“ C P H
Dyed, 2.50, 2.60	BLUE DENIMS	“ V & U U
BROCADES—White, 40 yds. 2.10, 2.10	0.04, 0.05½	Assorted, H H
Dyed, 2.50, 2.60	DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in. ½ pc. 1.30, 1.40	“ C P H
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds. 4.00, 4.50	41 in. ... 1.40, 1.50	“ G G
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS nom. 2.20, 2.55	MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. dmj., 0.70, 0.85	“ U U
CHINTZ—Assorted	YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28 a 32 70.00, 87.00	LASTINGS, 30 yds
Blue	CAMLETS, English, S S	9.80, 11.75
Brown	GG	CRAPPE LASTINGS, 30 yds. ... 4.00, 8.00
Scarlet	SSG	CRAPPE LUSTRES
PRINTED TWEELS—24/25 yds. 2.00, 2.70	MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS. ½ yd. 0.85, 1.65	3.00, 3.50
50/52	SPANISH STRIPES	PLAIN—Do. Black
Best, 5.30, 5.00	“ T. T. B	3.60, 3.90
T. REDS, 24 yds. 2 a 3 lbs. 32 in. 1.50, 2.10	“ H. H.	ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds. nm. 2.50, 3.40
Best, ½ pc. 2.20, 2.65	“	Special Patterns
		3.50, 3.65

METALS.—*Nailrod Iron.*—There is absolutely nothing to report. *Lead.*—Great quietness has prevailed throughout this week. Speculation seems to have ceased and the dealers are not buying, consequently quotations are nominal. In the other descriptions of metals there is no particular change to note, and dullness is the characteristic of the market for all at the close.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.

	Tls. m. c.		Tls. m. c.
QUICKSILVER	per Pol. 67.00 a 68.00	COTTON—Common	per Pol. 11.50 a
TIN PLATES—14 x 10	per Box 5.10 a	“ Medium	12.50 a
IRON WIRE—No. 11	per Pol. 4.50 a	“ Best	13.00 a
12/16	nominal 5.00 a 5.50	SUGAR—White.....Swatow, No. 1	5.00 a 5.50
17/23	no demand. 6.50 a	“ 2	4.50 a 5.00
STRAITS TIN—Fong Hing	18.00 a	“ 3	4.00 a 4.50
Fok Chok	17.20 a	Canton, ... 1	4.00 a 4.50
Common Chops.	13.00 a	“ 2	3.50 a 3.70
STEEL	per Tuh 3.60 a	“ 3	3.20 a 3.50
Bamboo	per Pol. 4.15 a 4.20	Brown—Swatow, Best	2.00 a 2.50
JAPAN COPPER—Finger	none	“ Common	1.80 a 2.20
Slab, best	19.50 a 20.00	“	2.00 a 2.50
Ore	17.60 a	“	1.60 a 2.00
HOOP IRON	2.90 a 3.00	PEPPER—Black	6.80 a
PIG IRON	21.00 a 22.00	“ White	15.00 a 18.00
NAILROD IRON—		RATTANS—Common	2.80 a 3.20
Dawes' Best	Nom. per Pol. 2.65 a 2.70	—Good to fine	3.20 a 3.50
H. Rogers, Sons & Co.	2.50 a 2.55	—Best	3.60 a 4.00
Belgian	2.20 a 2.30	SAPAN WOOD—3 pieces to the picul ...	2.80 a 3.00
M. M. Crown	2.40 a 2.45	“ 6 “ & inf. ..	1.80 a 2.40
Bar—Dawes	Nom. 2.80 a	SANDALWOOD—South Sea	3.60 a
Round	2.90 a 3.00	Timor	9.00 a 10.00
LEAD—L B	6.00 a 6.10	Malabar	16.50 a 18.00
Common Brands	2.90 a 2.95	MANGROVE BARK	0.70 a 1.30
		FLINT STONES	0.40 a 0.45

FREIGHTS.—*Windhover*, British ship, 846 tons, Nagasaki and back, 22 lay days—\$1.75 per picul; *Condor*, German brig, 235 tons, Nagasaki, Hakodadi and back, 24 lay days—\$1,680 in full; *Rifeman*, British barque, 718 tons, Formosa to Clinde, no lay days—Private terms; *Ceres*, British barque, 484 tons, Shanghai to Amoy, no lay days—\$0.13 per picul; *Raymond*, British brig, 399 tons, Nagasaki and back, 16 lay days—\$2.05 per ton; *Gesina*, Dutch schooner, 423 tons, Newchwang, Chefoo to Hongkong, 20 lay days—\$0.25 per picul; *Albert Victor*, British barque, 384, Foochow to Taku, Newchwang to Swatow, no lay days—Private terms; *Wm. Van Name*, American barque, 466 tons, Shanghai to New York, no lay days—Private terms; *Charley*, British barque, 339 tons, Newchwang to Swatow, 15 lay days—\$0.25 per picul; *Oceanus*, German brig, 207 tons, Amoy, Taiwan-foo and back, 25 lay days—\$1,550 in full.

COTTON.—The market is again lower, and there is no business going on.

EXCHANGE.—Until to-day Sterling remained steady at last week's quotations, and the bulk of the business for the mail has been transacted at 5s. 5d. a 5s. 5½d. for Bank paper, and 5s. 5½d. a 5s. 5½d. for Private paper. At the close rates are lower, and the best rate now quoted for Bank paper is 5s. 4½d.; Credits are saleable at 5s. 5½d. and Documents 5s. 5½d. A considerable amount of Merchants' bills has been settled for May and June delivery at 5s. 5d. a 5s. 5½d. On India, rates have advanced. Immediate Transfers are obtainable at Rs. 308½, and Demand Drafts at Rs. 310 a 311. On Hongkong, 28 per cent. discount with very little doing.

NOON.

CLOSING RATES OF EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, at sight	5s. 3½d. a 5s. 4d. ½ Tl.
“ “ “ at 6 m/s.	5s. 4½d. “
Credits, at 6 months' sight	5s. 5½d. “
Do. to Private buyers	5s. 5½d. “
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	5s. 5½d. “
ON PARIS.—Banks at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 6.82½ “
Credits, at 6 months' sight	Fcs. 6.87½ “
Bills with Documents, 6 m/s.	Fcs. 6.90 “
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank Bills, demand, ...	Rs. 309 a 311 ½ 100 Tls.
ON BOMBAY.—“	Rs. 309 a 311 ½ 100 “
ON HONGKONG.—Bank Bills, dem and, 28 per cent. disc.	
Private Bills, at 15 days' sight, 28½ per cent. disc.	

INTEREST.—9 per cent. per annum on first-class securities.

PRICES OF BULLION.

MEXICAN DOLLARS.—72.6 Tls. per 100 Dollars.
CAROLUS DOLLARS.—79.5 “ “ “
PEKIN GOLD BARS.—98 Touch, 178.50 Taels, Shanghai Currency
per Bar of Tls. 9.72 Chau-ping weight.
HAIKWAN SYCEE.—111.40 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Tls.
Haikwan weight.
CANTON SYCEE.—109.50 Taels Shanghai Currency per 100 Taels
Canton weight (nominal).
BAR SILVER.—998 Touch or 17½ Betterness, Tls. 111.3½ Shanghai
Currency per 100 Taels, Canton weight.
COPPER CASH.—1,590 per Tael.

EXPORTS.

SILK.—The past fortnight's business in silk has resulted in the purchase of about 900 bales, bringing up present settlements for this season to 69,500 against 71,450 bales in 1874-75.

Included amongst 250 bales taken for the French mail of the 22nd instant were some “Blue Elephants” at Tls. 320, and for the outgoing steamer some “Dragon” Tsatlees have been settled at a further decline for this chop, the reported prices paid being Tls. 360, 340 and 310 for the Nos. 2, 3 and 3½.

The accumulated stock of re-reels, especially reelected Hainings, having naturally depressed these particular classes of silk, there has been a very good demand for the common and medium qualities commencing from Tls. 290 a 325 per picul, and quite 500 bales have changed hands since the issue of our last report.

The M. B. steam-ship *Nagoya Maru*, leaving with the American mails this morning, has nearly 400 bales on board.

The unsold stock is reduced to 1,000 bales.

OPIUM. —Stock on 15th inst.	MALWA,	1,560	Chests.	PATNA,	1,269	Chests.
Receipts since	"	891	"	"	494	"
	Total.....	2,451	"	Total	1,763	"
Deliveries from 15th inst.	"	897½	"	"	400	"
Present Stock	"	1,553½	"	"	1,363	"

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cottons and Woollen Piece Goods from 19th to 26th April, 1876,
compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 87 to 92, both Nos. inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATION.													
	Ningpo.	Chinkiang.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chasoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.	Sundries.	Local.
Grey Shirtings	Pcs. 3,670	9,660	7,450	56,185	8,150	16,590	3,350	200	...	500	700	...	...	3,600
T-Cloths	3,005	4,380	7,830	9,285	3,600	21,395	3,850	1,850	...	...	350	1,350	...	4,720
White Shirtings	180	650	550	3,450	900	10,099	110	50	...	60	30	...	...	1,180
Drills	60	375	260	8,390	3,295	9,300	5,150	160	150	...	...	...	...	390
Jeans	210	60	...	1,440	...	6,370	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Sheetings	120	...	...	...	...	3,670	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Dyed Shirtings	...	...	...	100	50	350	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades, White	...	...	...	...	650	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Dyed	...	...	50	215	250	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	50
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	...	120	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes	60	60	170	1,890	260	1,510	420	...	140	...	...	...	...	480
Turkey Red Shirtings	50	100	50	500	125	1,851	50	40	...	...	...	...	...	50
Velvets	...	20	174	270	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Velveteens	...	54	...	312	...	...	48	...	30	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs	Doz. ...	200	600	200	...	200	...	200	194	...	...	...	...	1,400
Muslins	Pcs. ...	...	...	300	100	...	400	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Dimities	...	50	50	100	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes	...	54	103	264	90	282	72	84	100	...	...	...	...	120
Medium and Broad Cloths	...	18	28	366	...	70	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	72
Camlets	20	140	340	960	80	40	140	170	90	...	...	...	...	80
Long Ellis	20	...	80	520	...	200	40	...	20	...	40	...	...	20
Lastings	20	120	60	240	350	730	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Crape Lastings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Figured	110	210	170	470	...	1,260	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	240
" Crape	...	...	50	100	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	Pcls. 971	755	42	126	...	...	...	...	...	124	...	...	...	...
Pig Lead	907	163	879	192	...	...	...	...	...	...	316	...	...	...

Goods.	DELIVERIES.		IMPORTS.		STOCKS BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS.	
	From 11th to 19th April.	For Year from 1st Jan. 1876.	From 11th to 19th April.	For Year from 1st Jan. 1876.	Estimated at date	Against 28/4/75.
Grey Shirtings	Pcs. 110,055	1,305,085	204,146	941,173	372,600	1,102,000
T.Cloths	61,615	976,769	205,478	932,736	735,500	262,100
White Shirtings	17,259	221,706	52,341	227,910	127,400	109,700
Drills	27,530	275,478	60,578	349,102	352,800	173,600
Jeans	8,120	100,793	12,170	70,559	70,800	36,300
Sheetings	4,070	45,210	2,805	31,665	47,400	5,100
Dyed Shirtings	600	11,446	120	13,068	25,900	9,600
Brocades, White	750	5,902	1,990	5,582	2,700	4,000
" Dyed	615	15,463	1,150	3,248	12,200	26,800
Damasks, Dyed	360	4,663	406	2,058	3,000	8,000
Chintzes	4,990	62,111	10,078	37,334	49,000	60,600
Turkey Red Shirtings	2,816	35,704	6,477	33,543	39,100	30,800
Velvets	548	14,842	3,324	26,508	21,800	11,700
Velveteens	444	4,768	402	7,798	11,300	3,000
Handkerchiefs	Doz. 2,994	73,360	8,926	53,345	16,800	40,000
Muslins	Pcs. 900	18,020	2,923	43,377	28,300	3,000
Dimities	250	7,410	500	2,748	7,100	10,400
Spanish Stripes	1,174	15,905	3,118	17,894	6,600	10,600
Medium and Broad Cloths	564	8,123	2,305	13,482	17,800	10,500
Camlets	2,060	26,306	2,300	21,362	12,000	13,100
Long Ellis	940	19,720	2,300	26,232	16,100	7,800
Lastings	1,660	12,758	2,768	12,648	11,000	10,100
Crape Lastings	40	2,120	400	700	7,100	8,700
Lustres, Plain	50	6,550	1,019	2,879	8,900	5,100
" Figured	2,520	43,077	2,220	18,634	10,700	102,000
" Crape	200	5,868	500	1,869	200	17,400
Pig Lead	Pcls. 2,457	41,644	1,681	47,207	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod	2,018	29,246	1,806	48,519	.....	.....

* Exclusive of import cargoes ex *Glenartney, Sindh, Ellen Brouse, Agamemnon, Gwalior, Antenor, Meikong, Russia, Viking, Hindostan, several Coasters, and of sundry re-exports.*

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

APRIL 29, 1876.

ARRIVALS.—(Not reported above.)—April 26th, British steamer *Galley of Lorne*, from London.DEPARTURE.—(Not reported above.)—April 29th, British steamer *Agamemnon*, for London.The English mail steamer *Qualior* takes about 320 bales of SILK.

EXCHANGE.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 4½d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 5d. First-class to Private buyers, 5s. 5d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 5½d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 6.82½, Private, Frs. 6.90. On India—Bombay Bank, Rs. 308 a 311. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 308 a 311. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 28 per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 28½. Gold Bars, Tls. 179.00. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.25. Mexican dollars, Sh. Tls. 72.75 per 100. Carolus, Sh. Tls. 79.40 per 100. Copper cash, 1,580 per tael.

SHARES.—At Noon, 29th April :—

S. S. N. Co.—Some shares have changed hands at Tls. 69 cash, and Tls. 70 for end of June. A few can be had at the same rates.

China Coast S. N. Co.—Some business has been done at Tls. 64 a 66.

Shanghai Dock Co.—A sale is reported at Tls. 210.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Shares can be had at Tls. 144.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.—A small business has been done at \$ 500 cash.

Yangtze Insurance Association.—A few shares have changed hands at Tls. 650 cash.

The weather during the week has been very variable. Heavy rain fell throughout Thursday, and again on Friday night. This morning was overcast and cool, but the afternoon became fine and bright. The thermometer during the week has ranged from 52 minimum to 78 maximum.

Shanghai Share Market.

Stock.	Paid up.	Divid. Last Year.	Closing Quotations.
Banks.			
H'kong and Shai Banking Corp.	\$ 125	3 %	par.
Steamer Cos.			
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co.	Tls. 100	7 %	Tls. 70 30 June
Union Steam Navigation Company.	30	....	noml.
China Coast S. N. Co.	Tl. 100	5 %	Tls. 66
China Merchants S. N. Co.	500	15 %	nominal.
Docks.			
Shanghai Dock Co.	Tl. 500	T. 20, sh	210
Pootung Dock Co.	" 100	10 %	80
Gas.			
Shanghai Gas Co.	100	11 %	Tls. 144
French Gas Co.	50	7 %	68 ex div.
Insurance.			
China Traders' Co. (Limited)	\$1,500	....	17½
N. China I. Co. 72½	Tl. 300	....	noml.
N. China I. Co. 75½	800	....	800 ex div.
Union Ins. Society of Canton	500	....	\$ 710
Yangtze Insurance Association	Tl. 500	15 %	Tls. 650
China and Japan Marine Ins. Co.	50	....	{ 34 ex return of Tls. 25
Chinese Insurance Co. (Limited)	\$ 200	12 %	{ 215 noml.
H'kong Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	200	{ 46.19 p. sh.	600
Victoria Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	"	....	69
China Fire Ins. Co. (Limited)	100	12 %	153
Miscellaneous.			
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Comy.	Tl. 350	12 %	600 noml.
Shai and Hongkew Wharf Co.	100	5 %	95 @ 97
Shai Tug Boat Ass.	100	....	noml.
Shai Mun. Debentures—loan 1872.	100	8 %	nominal
Do. " 1873.	100	8 %	do.
Chinese Imperial Loan	285	{ 8 %	{ £103 0s. noml.
Theatre Debentures	25	8 %	Tls. 15
Shanghai Racquet Club	120		100

Exchange.
Bank Sight Rate on Hongkong .. 72

J. P. BISSET & Co.,
Sharebrokers.

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HANKOW.

Messrs. Gordon Brothers write on 24th April :—The entire absence of sales from foreign hands rendered it useless for us to publish a Circular for the last English mail, and now our information respecting manufactured goods is necessarily of the most meagre order, the business reported being quite of a retail character. All cotton goods shew a decline of fully three candareens per piece on our quotations of 1st instant, the advance in Exchange in London being at once discounted in the Tael price. We append statement of the receipts of staple manufactures at this port for the quarter ending 31st ultimo, shewing that, although the trade has left foreign hands, the imports are largely in excess of the corresponding period of the two previous years. We understand that there is now no difficulty in sending foreign goods to Szechuen under Customs Transit Passes. Raw Cotton.—The market has been quiet throughout the month, and stock has accumulated to 40,000 piculs. Quotations, Tls. 11.75 @ 13.25 per picul. Tea.—From reliable information received to-day from the Tea districts, it would appear that owing to the very favorable weather, the new Teas are likely to arrive here as early as last year, say 8th to 10th May. The leaf is said to be abundant and good, and prices up country about the same as last season.

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By the kind permission of the Editor of the *China Review*, an able article on the "Peking Gazette," by W. F. MAYERS, Esq., Chinese Secretary to H. B. M. Legation, forms an interesting and appropriate introduction.

To be had at the N.-C. Herald Office, at Messrs. KELLY & Co., HALL & HOLTZ, and LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

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L. EWALD, Manager.

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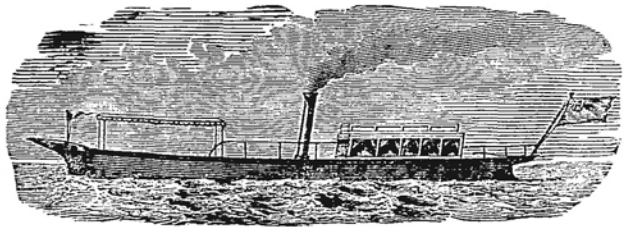
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